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80 injured in blast in Lebanon

50 killed in car bomb carnage

BEIRUT, April 23, (AP): A TNT-packed pickup truck exploded in a crowded vegetable market in the northern port of Tripoli, killing 50 people and wounding 80, police said.

They said the 8.45 am (0645 GMT) blast rocked the low-income Tabbaneh residential district in Lebanon's second largest city, 50 miles (80 kilometres) north of Beirut.

Police said the pickup, apparently used to transport vegetables, had been loaded with an estimated 100 kilograms (220 pounds) of TNT.

The bomb detonated as the market area was filled with Muslim shoppers on the seventh day of the holy fasting month of Ramadan.

Tripoli's 850,000 population is predominantly Sunni Muslim.

It was the worst car bombing in Lebanon in nearly three years. A car bomb exploded outside an ice cream parlour in Tripoli June 29, 1985, killing 50 people and wounding 110 as they celebrated the Eid feast marking the end of Ramadan.

No group has claimed responsibility for today's bombing and police said they had no clue about who the bombers were.

Barbaric

Earlier car bombings in Tripoli and other towns were blamed on hostilities between Muslims and Christians as well as other feuds involving Palestinians, Syrians and Israelis.

Acting Prime Minister, Salim Hoss, a Sunni, condemned the bombing, the first major car bombing in Lebanon this year, as a "barbaric atrocity."

He declared: "All hands must team up to stop these executioners from committing further such crimes."

A police spokesman in Tripoli, who cannot be named under standing regulations, said: "It was a real massacre. Several pedestrians and vendors were torn to pieces."

Rubble

He said Syrian troops in charge of security in Tripoli cordoned off the devastated blast scene as ambulances, sirens wailing rushed casualties to the city's four hospitals.

Radio stations broadcast hospital appeals for blood donations. Police said the morgues in the city's medical centres were "packed with corpses, many of them burned or mutilated beyond identification."

The explosion gutted several shops and set dozens of cars ablaze.

Many buildings collapsed and civil defence teams dug through the twisted rubble looking for trapped people. Fire crews tackled several blazes started by the explosion.

There have been four small bombings in Beirut and Tripoli in the last three months in which five people were killed and 15 wounded. But police said none of them was a car rigged with explosives.

At least 57 people were killed and 288 wounded in 16 car bombings in Lebanon last year.

Car bombs are a by-product of Lebanon's 13-year-old civil war between Muslims and Christians. More than 130,000 people have been killed since fighting broke out in 1975.

Nation comes out stronger from crisis: Amir

KUWAIT has come out stronger from the crisis of the hijacking, HH the Amir said yesterday.

Addressing the nation on the occasion of the holy month of Ramadan, and the release of the hostages from the hijacked KAC jetliner Jaberia, the Amir said that the Kuwaiti people had affirmed that the dignity of Kuwait was not a commodity in the political market and that the principles of Kuwait were not papers at negotiating tables.

He began the address by congratulating the people on the occasion of the holy month of Ramadan which he described as the days of good and prosperity. He wished that the month would result in more security and peace

for brother Arabs and Muslims and all peace-loving people.

The Amir prayed to God to open the hearts of all people towards cooperation to put an end to bloodshed and preserve life and property.

We hope to exchange greetings and not shells, congratulations and not threats, and we wish this to take place very soon, he said.

Dedication

The Amir said that for 16 long days the hijacked Kuwaiti plane was the platform of a struggle between innocent, unarmed people and ghosts who refused to appear in the light. They came from the darkness and they have returned to it, he added.

He said that with all firm belief

and dedication, the two martyrs were laid to rest. They had followed many Kuwaitis before them in the defence of their country, its dignity and principles. He thanked God for the safe return of the passengers and the crew of the hijacked Kuwaiti jetliner. He also prayed for God to preserve the unity and cohesion of the people of Kuwait in crisis.

He said that many conspiracies were directed against Kuwait and were aimed at blackmailing the country or killing its citizens inside or outside the country. These conspiracies also aimed at destroying its vital installations through conspiracies

(Continued on Page 2)



HH the Amir

Sinhalese group raids air base

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka, April 23, (AP): At least 12 people died in an attack by an outlawed Sri Lankan rebel group on the country's main Air Force base, military officials said today.

Officials said the dead included five Air Force men and seven Sinhalese rebels.

Yesterday's attack on the Katunayake air base, 24 kilometres (16 miles) north of Colombo, the capital, also injured five rebels, 24 Air Force men and four policemen, the officials said.

Gunmen of the Peoples Liberation Front, a group of nationalist Sinhalese, attacked the base around 7:30 pm (1400 GMT). The attack was repulsed after four hours, the officials said.

At least three rebels were captured alive, but others managed to escape with at least 30 Chinese-made T-56 rifles and a machine gun, the officials said.

US broadens protection policy in Gulf

WASHINGTON, April 23, (Agencies): The government has decided to expand its Gulf policy to allow US Navy warships to come to the aid of neutral merchant ships under attack, officials have said.

President Reagan's administration is seeking support from congressional leaders and allied governments for the new policy. Under the policy, American warships would no longer be told to ignore Iranian attacks on merchant ships that were not flying the US flag.

If a Navy warship observed an Iranian attack and was close enough to intervene, it would have the authority to do so, said the officials, who agreed to discuss the matter only if not identified.

"It's a random, target-of-opportunity approach designed to throw the Iranians off guard," said one source.

Another congressional official who was briefed on the matter said: "This will give a lot of authority to local commanders and a lot of leeway to do as they see fit."

"Our purpose is not to get into a war with Iran," added a third official. "Our purpose is to secure safe passage for neutral shipping moving back and forth between neutral ports."

The officials, citing the need "to keep Iran guessing," flatly refused to say when the Reagan administration intended to implement the new policy. One source said it could happen "soon, maybe next week," but refused to elaborate.

Another official suggested the timing could be affected by ongoing consultations with congressional leaders and with US allies, such as Britain and France, with warships of their own in the region.

Indicated

The officials indicated the Reagan administration had made up its mind yesterday, when the Pentagon secured the White House's blessing for the change.

The change, which Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci and top aides began outlining yesterday, is a result of the mining of the US frigate Samuel B. Roberts on April 14 and last Monday's fighting between Iranian and US forces, the officials said.

US forces sank or crippled six Iranian vessels that challenged them after they destroyed two offshore platforms in retaliation for the mining of the Roberts. A US Navy helicopter with two crewmen aboard did not return from the mission and has been listed as missing.

The US Navy yesterday destroyed five more mines in the southern Gulf, bringing to 13 the number detonated by American and Western forces in the past week, the Pentagon said.

Defence officials said the mines were found over the past two days near the Rostam oil rig and were detonated yesterday as allied minesweepers continued to search an area around where the Roberts hit a mine.

Seven other mines were also located and cleared by US, Dutch and Belgian forces in the Shah Allum mine danger area near where the Roberts was hit.

China won't back arms embargo on Iran

NEW YORK, April 23, (Reuters): China has told the United States it will not back a United Nations arms embargo against Iran, the New York Times reported today.

It quoted a State Department official as saying: "China has told us that because of recent developments in the war, it would complicate matters to pass an arms embargo resolution and that this was not the way to bring the war to an end."

The Reagan administration appealed to the 15 members of the UN Security Council shortly after US forces struck two Iranian oil platforms on Monday and sank or disabled six Iranian naval vessels.

Response

Chinese Foreign Ministry officials gave the response to the US Ambassador to China, Winston Lord, the newspaper said.

According to the New York Times, the Chinese had earlier said they would go along if the other Security Council members supported an arms embargo resolution, but China apparently became concerned that it would be seen as siding with the United States against Iran.

"The Chinese response was the clearest indication that the American naval attacks had undermined the nine-month American diplomatic efforts at the United Nations," the newspaper said.

China has sold large quantities of land-based Silkworm anti-ship missiles and other military hardware to Iran and has never been enthusiastic about the embargo proposal, the newspaper said.

State Department officials said the United States would continue to press for an embargo, even though it seemed increasingly unlikely that the initiative would succeed.

Gorbachev tired of Reagan's sermons

MOSCOW, April 23, (Reuters): Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev, signalled yesterday that he was tired of "sermons" from President Reagan.

"We are not going to re-educate the United States and do not accept that it has any right to re-educate us," he said, touching on human rights when he gave a clear response to Reagan's recent criticism of Soviet policies.

In remarks to Secretary of State

(Continued on Page 2)



Palestinians carry a woman after she was injured in a clash with Israeli police. (Reuters wirephoto)

INSIDE

International	2
Kuwait-Gulf	3
Event	4
Pictures	5
Editorials	6
Features	7,8,9
Business	10
Currencies	11
Classifieds	12
Urdu	13,14
Sports	15,16

آج کے اردو صفحات میں
○ لبنان کے شہر تریپولی میں
کلاھا کے ۵۰ افراد ہلاک
○ سکھ انتہا پسندوں نے
۱۹ افراد کو موت کے گھاٹ
اتار دیا
○ سری لنکا کے فضائی اڈے پر
حملے میں ۱۱ افراد ہلاک
○ ڈاکٹر مبشر حسن کا ایک
تفصیلی انٹرویو

WEATHER

TEMPERATURE will be around normal with a light northeasterly wind.

State of sea: moderate

High water: 11.00 am, 11.00 pm

Low water: 7.00 am, 4.00 pm

Sunrise: 5.13 am

Sunset: 6.20 pm

Maximum temperature recorded:
Kuwait: 36°C 97°F
Ahmad: 33°C 91°F
Faiaka: 30°C 86°F

Minimum temperature recorded:
Kuwait: 21°C 70°F
Ahmad: 20°C 68°F
Faiaka: 25°C 77°F

Maximum temperature expected:
Kuwait: 35°C 95°F
Ahmad: 32°C 90°F
Faiaka: 29°C 84°F

Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 46 per cent
Ahmad: 48 per cent
Faiaka: 54 per cent

Maximum humidity expected:
Kuwait: 48 per cent
Ahmad: 50 per cent
Faiaka: 56 per cent

Inssak 3.38 am
Ifar 6.20 pm

7 injured in Israeli bombing

DAMOUR, Lebanon, April 23, (UPI): Israeli jet fighters pounded positions manned by Syrian-backed Palestinian commandos and ammunition depots south-east of Beirut yesterday, authorities said. Seven people were wounded in the attacks.

A squadron of eight Israeli jet fighters carried out two strikes against Palestinian bases in the areas of Damour, Naameh and Haret Naameh, a cluster of villages 9 miles (14 km) southeast of Beirut and midway to the port city of Sidon.

Police said two jets attacked the targets while six provided air cover at low altitude by unleashing heated balloons to protect themselves from heat-seeking missiles aimed at the exhausts of jet engines.

Seven people were wounded and taken to hospitals in Beirut, and Sidon, police said.

Israel acknowledged the attacks, the sixth raid into Lebanon this year.

An Israeli Army spokesman said the planes attacked targets north of Sidon and "returned safely" to their base after the pilots reported accurate hits.

Police said two buildings used as training centres by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, or PFLP-GC, led by Ahmed Jibril were hit in the 10-minute raid.

The Israeli warplanes also rocketed a nearby training camp for the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

The attacking planes were met by heavy anti-aircraft fire from Palestinian gunners and militiamen from the Progressive Socialist Party of Druze chief Walid Jumblatt.

Arabs under curfew on 'day of rage'

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, April 23, (AP): Israel imposed a tight curfew on Arabs in the occupied territories today, which has been designated a "day of rage" by leaders of the Palestinian uprising to mark a week since the assassination of PLO military chief Khalil Al Wazir.

Violence erupted Friday during protests over Al Wazir's slaying, and Israeli soldiers killed two Arabs and injured 36 others in the occupied Gaza Strip. In Jerusalem, police battled rioting Muslim worshippers near the sacred Al Aqsa mosque.

The curfew imposed by Israel's Army covered the West Bank towns of Anabta and Nablus and 20 Palestinian refugee camps in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. A total of 400,000 people were under curfew, according to Israeli Radio.

In a leaflet issued in Jerusalem, Arab leaders called on Palestinians to turn the holy month of Ramadan into "a month of fury" and threatened to take revenge on merchants who defied Palestine Liberation Organisation orders to strike.

"The hand of the revolutionary justice can reach anyone at any time," said the leaflet, signed by "Jerusalem Popular Committees."

The leaflet proclaimed "glory" (Continued on Page 2)

Hijacking was well-planned

NICOSIA, April 23, (Agencies): The Cyprus government has strong evidence that the hijacking of the Kuwait Airways Boeing 747 earlier this month was planned at least six months in advance and that one of the hijackers had visited Cyprus and Kuwait long before the hijacking.

Government spokesman Akis Fantis told the Cyprus News Agency (CNA) today that the recent hijacking of the Kuwaiti jumbo jet was not a spontaneous action like previous hijackings, but "a well-prepared, well-planned and sophisticated operation."

Evidence

He pointed to reports that one of the hijackers knew all about the aircraft and was thought to be a flight engineer.

He said the government had "indisputable evidence" gathered by intelligence services here and abroad, that the whole operation was planned last November, at the latest.

He disclosed that one of the nine air pirates had visited Cyprus and Kuwait long before the hijacking, apparently to gather information on the location and functioning of airports in the two countries.

Fantis said the man had used a false passport and a false identity when he entered Cyprus. He declined to give a description of the man.

Faced with a well-planned operation, as also assessed by foreign intelligence services and interested governments, the Cypriot authorities had an extremely difficult task during the four days the hijacked plane remained at Larnaca airport.

The release of all remaining hostages in Algiers justified the

Measures

The attackers exploded bombs, which the officials said were done as "diversional measures."

An airport official said three bullets hit an Air Lanka Boeing 737 parked at the international airport. A window in the airport's public viewing gallery was shattered.

Rebels also attacked a radio station of the government-owned posts and telecommunications department yesterday, an official said.

Telecommunication officer J.M. Peries said that the attackers stabbed two of his staff and fled with some radio equipment.

Some of the equipment was recovered.

Colombo airport was closed to traffic yesterday evening, but airport officials said today that air services had resumed.

Change

The sources stressed the policy change did not entail an extension of the US military umbrella to foreign-flag ships in regular convoys. Even under the new policy, only ships flying the American flag will be entitled to "door-to-door protection" in convoys, one official said.

Also rejected in devising the new policy were suggestions that Navy warships start protecting American-owned ships that fly a foreign flag of convenience, the sources said.

The new policy also will extend in certain cases to include Western-operated oil rigs in the Gulf, the sources said. They refused to

Pakistan blatantly helping Sikhs: Rajiv

NEW DELHI, April 23, (Reuters): Pakistan is "blatantly helping the terrorists in Punjab" and thwarting India's attempts at friendship, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said today.

Rajiv, speaking at a meeting of his ruling Congress (I) party in the southern town of Kamaraj Nagar, said India was committed to developing friendly relations with Pakistan but the process could not be unilateral.

India has frequently accused Pakistan of giving arms and training to Sikh separatists fighting for an independent Punjab.

Ambitions

Pakistan has always denied the charges but the Sikh militants make little secret their main supply route is across the Pakistan border.

He spoke of encouraging trade, tourism and cultural ties as an immediate way of improving relations.

The prime minister, besides denouncing Pakistan's "meddling" in Punjab, called upon India's north-western neighbour to give up its nuclear ambitions and abandon its hostile posture in the Siachen area.

Referring to the Punjab extremists, he told his party workers the government was ready to talk to anyone who accepted the Indian constitution and gave up violence.

But its efforts were being hampered by Pakistan, by the "mindless violence" that has cost more than 700 lives in Punjab this year, and because "ugly forces of fundamentalism are raising their heads again."

Strike

India's extreme-right Hindu Shiv Sena called a one-day general strike in Punjab's Jullundur district today after seven Hindus were slaughtered by suspected Sikh militants there on Friday.

The Hindus were among 19 people who died in the Sikh separatist violence in the north Indian state yesterday, bringing the total killed there during April to more than 175.

Police quoted by the Press Trust of India said the Hindus were killed and several others injured when a squad of eight gunmen entered the village of Mandi Fenton Ganj in a truck, firing indiscriminately.

Iraq denies bombarding Iranian towns

BAGHDAD, April 23, (Reuters): Iraq today denied a Tehran claim that it had bombarded Iranian border towns the previous day and said that a ceasefire in the war of the cities was still valid.

Baghdad unilaterally declared a truce on Wednesday in the war of the cities which has killed hundreds of civilians since it erupted again in February. During the cities war, Iraq fired some 190 missiles, most of them at Tehran.

"The Iraqi forces have not bombarded any Iranian residential areas with artillery or any other weapon since the ceasefire came into effect after midnight Wednesday," Iraq's military spokesman said today.

Major General Abdul Jabbar Mohsen, who is also director of the Defence Ministry's political department, said Iran had violated the ceasefire and shelled the northeastern Iraqi town of Derbandikhan with long-range artillery early in the day.

De Mita wins vote of confidence

ROME, April 23, (Reuters): New Prime Minister Ciriaco De Mita cleared his last formal hurdle when he won a vote of confidence in the Italian Senate today.

The upper house voted 177 to 106 in favour of De Mita's government, Italy's 48th since the Second World War. The Senate confirmation followed approval by the chamber of deputies on Thursday.

INTERNATIONAL

Israel blamed for state terrorism

UN raps Abu Jihad murder

UNITED NATIONS, April 23. (Reuters): Security council members last night denounced the murder of Palestine Liberation Organisation military leader Khalil Al Wazir and left little doubt they suspect Israel.

Soviet Ambassador Aleksandr Belonogov blamed the Israelis outright, calling the killing of Al Wazir at his home in Tunis last Saturday an example of "state terrorism."

Dragoslav Peijic of Yugoslavia used the same term in condemning Israel.

But Maurizio Bucci of Italy said his government did not want to assess responsibility when the facts were not ascertained conclusively.

Resolution

Al Wazir, the PLO military commander also known as Abu Jihad, was slain in front of his wife and daughter by gunmen said to have arrived and left by sea.

Bucci said it appeared the murder was not done by a terrorist group but by a state that also infringed on the rights of a friendly nation well known for its moderation.

He said the incident could disrupt the current Middle East peace effort of US Secretary of State George Shultz and he wondered if that might have been one of the aims.

Tunisian Foreign Minister Mahmoud Mestiri, who lodged the formal complaint against Israel, offered no evidence of its involvement when he opened the debate on Thursday. Still, some members began drafting a resolution to condemn Israel for the attack, which also took the lives of a Tunisian gardener and two PLO guards at Al Wazir's beachfront home.

Crispin Tickell, the British delegate, said it was not known for certain who was responsible, or whether a government directed the murderers, but in subsequent remarks he made clear Israel was suspected.

Crime

Terrorism was to be condemned, he said, and support or sponsorship of murder by governments was doubly repugnant.

"Murder of a political adversary indicates a refusal to listen to his arguments and meet them in

kind," Tickell said. "It means a rejection of the processes by which the problems of Palestine must eventually be resolved if a still greater tragedy is to be averted."

Hideo Kagami of Japan called the murder a meaningless act of terrorism and said Tokyo was prepared to examine any information that might be presented to substantiate allegations against Israel.

Marcelo Delpech of Argentina said civilised people were bound to use peaceful methods to settle their disputes. The murder would surely intensify the cycle of violence, he said.

The United States has condemned the murder but was thought unlikely to support a resolution condemning Israel in the absence of evidence implicating the Jewish state in the killing. Israel is boycotting the council proceedings. It has neither confirmed nor denied responsibility for the assassination.

Kuwaiti Ambassador Mohammad Abulhassan took Israel to task for flouting international laws and values in its attack on Tunisian territory last

weekend.

Israel's goal, Abulhassan said, "has always been and remains the liquidation of the Palestinian people, wherever it exists."

Expansionism

Abulhassan said Israel's aggressions were motivated by "an inside arrogance and a philosophy based on hegemony and expansion."

Mestiri, on Thursday supplied details to the council of the aggressions to which Tunisia had been subjected to and in which its sovereignty had been violated.

"The new Israeli aggression represents, among other things, humiliation of this august body which embodies the international opinion at its highest levels," Abulhassan said.

The Kuwaiti official recalled Security Council resolution 573 of 1985 which condemned the Israeli bombing of the PLO headquarters outside Tunis.

The resolution ordered Israel to immediately refrain from such acts of aggression and called upon the international community to put pressure on Israel to prevent it from repeating such acts.



Jordan's Crown Prince Hassan (left) and his son Rashid watch Japanese sumo wrestlers practising at a Kasugano sumo stable in Tokyo. (Reuters wirephoto)

Bofors scandal sparks uproar

Opposition MPs stage walkout

NEW DELHI, April 23. (UPI): Opposition members walked out of Parliament yesterday after they were stopped from debating disclosures that a prominent trading family is linked to an alleged bribe paid in the 1986 sale of \$1.3 billion artillery system by Sweden's Bofors company.

In Stockholm, Swedish Radio announced it had documents to prove, the same non-resident Indian family — the Hinduja based in London — had received from Bofors an 80 million kroner (\$13.5 million) commission for securing the howitzer contract with New Delhi.

Investigation

The station, that in May 1987 broke the story about the reported kickback, declined to say what documents it had proving the secret payments, but reported the money had been deposited in a Swiss bank account before being diverted to a Hinduja family company in London. The Hinduja family, that runs a global trading empire, has denied any involvement in the con-

tract to sell the 400 155mm guns to India in Sweden's largest-ever arms deal.

A Swedish prosecutor on Jan 25 closed an investigation into the alleged payments for lack of evidence. In New Delhi, a parliamentary commission yesterday finished its inquiries and also concluded that no payments had been made to any middleman.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, whose credibility and public standing have been severely battered by the controversy, has said that no Indian, resident or non-resident, received any payments.

Report

But in the lower house of Parliament yesterday opposition legislators demanded a debate on front-page disclosures by the "Hindu" newspaper linking a London-based Hinduja company to the alleged payments.

Opposition lawmakers and members of Rajiv's Congress (I) Party argued fiercely for more

than 15 minutes before the speaker refused to allow a debate, prompting most of the opposition to storm out of the chamber.

The Hinduja Published photocopies of two bank remittances showing that "Pitco," a company that gave its mailing address as the Hinduja-owned "Sangan Co. Ltd.," received from Bofors a total of 123,000 kroner (\$20,800) in 1982.

The newspaper also printed a 1981 telex from Bofors's vice president of marketing Hans Ekblom informing a man named as "Mr Marshi" the Swedish arms company agreed that Pitco was to be paid a 10 per cent commission "on the total contract value" of an unspecified arms sale.

It showed a second telex, purportedly sent in 1984 to Marshi at the Geneva-based "Moresco" company. During inquiries, Bofors executives have said they paid to Moresco "winding-up" charges after the 1986 artillery deal.

US envoy forecasts power struggle in Afghanistan

Kabul regime won't last long

ISLAMABAD, April 23. (Reuters): The Soviet-backed Afghan government will not remain in power for long after Soviet troops withdraw, the US ambassador to Pakistan said in remarks published today.

"It is hard for me to imagine it surviving any length of time once the Russian troops leave," Ambassador Arnold Raphael said in an interview with the Muslim newspaper.

"They have barely managed to control 20 per cent of the country with 115,000 troops," he said. "Once those troops go, I would be very surprised if it lasted any time at all."

Soviet forces who entered in 1979 to support the Kabul government are due to leave by next February 15 under an accord sig-

ned last week in Geneva by Pakistan and Afghanistan with the United States and the Soviet Union as guarantors.

The accord stipulates an end to outside interference in Afghanistan, but Raphael reiterated the US position that Washington will keep arming Afghan guerrillas based in Pakistan if Moscow continues to send weapons to the Kabul government.

Arms dump

He said Washington would prefer to end such assistance.

"But to say that allowing the Soviets to continue to supply a faction and we shouldn't supply a faction somehow meets the requirements of non-interference — we don't think is correct," he said.

Asked if a large weapons dump that exploded on April 10 near Islamabad, killing at least 103 people, had contained US weapons destined for Afghan guerrillas, Raphael replied:

"My understanding is that it was a Pakistani Army depot and all the ordinance there was property of Pakistan. I would prefer not to go beyond that."

Pakistani newspapers and opposition politicians have said they suspect the Ojri dump was a transit point in a secret weapons pipeline for the guerrillas.

When asked about such reports, Pakistani officials have variously denied them, declined to comment or replied that such questions would be answered by Army investigators preparing a report on the blast.

Manila: Asia's sin city

MANILA, April 23. (Reuters): The Philippine capital is becoming Asia's "sin city," Manila police chief Brigadier-General Alfredo Lim said today.

Lim, who has led a series of raids on Manila's red light district, said he would continue the drive against foreign owners of discotheques and girls bars that employ unlicensed hostesses.

Police say the bars and night clubs were being used as fronts for prostitution and drug abuse.

"It is the base of our times that Manila has turned the sin city of Asia. Let us not allow that to be so," Lim told a group of businessmen.

"Instead of lavishing misplaced sympathy on those affected, let us instead pour that sympathy to the dying reputation of our beloved city," he added.

Tricks

Lim said Australians, Japanese, Germans and other foreigners who owned many of the bars and massage parlours in Manila's Ermita district were doing everything to stop police raids. He did not elaborate.

"They are employing all tricks to stop us so they can earn bundles and bundles of money," he said, "they are capitalising on our women."

He said health officials have found that 80 per cent of more than 2,000 bar girls rounded up since March were suffering from sexually transmitted diseases.

"Immigration agents arrested seven foreigners in raids on Thursday on two bars in Ermita and a Motel in neighbouring Pasay City.

They said they arrested an Indonesian found naked with a 12-year-old Filipino, and six Australians and Britons they alleged were owners of two bars operating as prostitution fronts.

India to get Soviet supercomputers

NEW DELHI, April 23. (AP): India and the Soviet Union signed a protocol yesterday that will allow New Delhi to purchase Soviet-made supercomputers later this year, the United News of India reported.

The news agency said the Soviet Union would provide India the specifications of the two supercomputer models, Elbrus 3-1 and FC-1068, by August. Commercial agreements would be worked out after India studied the specifications, UNI said.

The agreement also provides for Indo-Soviet cooperation in the manufacture of consumer electronics, ground radio navigation and airport system, optical fibre systems, and television and radio broadcasting equipment.

Last year, India signed an agreement with the United States for the purchase of Cray XMP-14 supercomputers to be used mainly in weather forecasting. New Delhi had asked to buy the Cray XMP-24 system to precast the annual monsoon, on which India's agriculture is largely dependent.

But US defence officials had resisted the sale of the more sophisticated Cray XMP-24.

Soviet leaders in a display of unity

MOSCOW, April 23. (Reuters): Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and his number two Yegor Ligachev smiled and chatted throughout a Moscow rally yesterday in a display of unity that appeared to quash rumours of a major split in the Kremlin.

The two stood side by side applauding loudly after a speech by senior Communist Party official Georgy Razumovsky who delivered a resounding reaffirmation of Gorbachev's proclaimed campaign for democratisation of Soviet society.

In what analysts said could have been a reference to a top-level debate on the extent of the Kremlin chief's "perestroika" reconstruction Programme Razumovsky said "discussion of different views" could only strengthen Soviet society.

Greeted

Over the past two weeks there have been strong rumours in Moscow that the 67-year-old Ligachev, who has expressed conservative views on cultural and press freedom, had clashed with Gorbachev and other reformers.

In the past few days, rumours

apparently emanating from Soviet sources and fuelled by Ligachev's absence from the public stage have suggested he may have lost some of his functions and been rebuked by Politburo colleagues.

But analysts said the scene yesterday in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses where almost the entire Soviet leadership was attending a rally marking the birthday of state founder Vladimir Lenin seemed to dispel this thesis.

As the stocky, white-haired Ligachev entered the hall with his colleagues in the Politburo, he was greeted by Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov with a warm handshake and a broad smile.

On the platform, Ligachev took his usual place alongside an initially stern-looking Gorbachev. But soon after Razumovsky began to speak they could be seen on television smiling and joking with each other.

Despite their obvious differences in temperament and views, Gorbachev and Ligachev have always appeared on good terms in public and seemed to enjoy an easy relationship, analysts say.

Nation comes out stronger from crisis

(Continued from Page 1)

either in the night or in the daylight.

But, the Amir added, we remained firm to our principles and what we believed to be right and just. Our policy is to condemn aggression, defend our country and people and establish justice in our country.

Core

He said that justice was the core of the judicial system in Kuwait and we don't have the right to change it.

He said that some people attempted to penetrate the national unity of the country and were still trying to do so. But with the help of Almighty God and the cohesion and awareness of the people of Kuwait, national unity came out of these crises stronger and firmer.

The people of Kuwait have declared that Kuwait is their father, mother, land and honour, and the people are Kuwait's past, present and future. This has been the charter of the Kuwaiti people, the Amir emphasised.

He said that he saw the unity of Kuwait exemplified twice during the crisis: once during the funeral of the two martyrs and again while receiving the freed hostages on their return to Kuwait.

Unity

He stressed that the Kuwaiti people thus showed their unity in sadness and happiness. He stressed that the sun of dignity of the Kuwaiti people will not set. We stood together firmly in defending our dignity and position until we achieved victory, he added.

The Amir paid warm tributes to the assassinated Palestinian commander, Abu Jihad, describing him as a martyr who lived and died for his country.

He said that with our feelings of happiness after the end of the crisis, our eyes still go to our struggling brothers in Palestine, and we extend all our support to them in their legitimate struggle.

Divert

The Amir said that some people have tried to divert attention from our central cause, the Palestine issue, through hijacking of the jetliner. Amid complete concern over the hijacked plane, the Israeli entity intensified its aggression, killings and destruction of houses and 'crowded' its crimes by the conspiracy on the life of Abu Jihad.

He stressed that the hijacking of the jetliner, with all its miseries, drew a distorted picture of Islam which had no connection with the hijackers. He added that many crimes were being committed in the name of Islam.

The Amir extended, on behalf of the people of Kuwait, his thanks to Algerian President Chadli Benjedid and to the government and people of Algeria for accepting the landing of the plane in Algiers and the subsequent freeing of the hostages and crew members.

He also thanked the PLO, represented by its chairman Yasser Arafat, for the great contribution to the affair.

He said Kuwait felt the true sympathy and cooperation expressed by heads of GCC countries, and by Arab, Islamic and international communities, as well as local and foreign public opinion.

In conclusion, the Amir thanked the heads of state and those who expressed feelings of sympathy with Kuwait by various ways.

Arabs under curfew on 'day of rage'

(Continued from Page 1)

and immortality to the hero Abu Jihad."

Israel has neither confirmed nor denied involvement in the assassination. But sources who demanded anonymity have said it was an Israeli operation, carried out jointly by the Israeli Mossad intelligence service, the Israeli Navy and an elite commando unit.

Arabs mourned Al Wazir's death by staging demonstrations and marches, with protesters waving black flags and shouting: "Abu Jihad sacrificed his blood."

Gorbachev tired of Reagan's ...

(Continued from Page 1)

George Shultz at a meeting in Moscow, he also indicated apprehension that his forthcoming summit with Reagan could be soured by what Kremlin officials see as an upsurge of anti-Soviet rhetoric by the President.

Despite agreements at their meeting in Washington last December, Gorbachev said: "Sermons are again being preached at us and we are being instructed on how we should behave ourselves."

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Greek sets record

SANTORINI, Greece, April 23. (Reuters): A Greek cycling champion set a distance record for manpowered flight today, pedalling a 32-kg (70-pound) aircraft from Crete to the island of Santorini, the island's control tower said.

Kanellos Kanellopoulos, 30, pedalled the craft, the Daedalus, for 119 km (74 miles). He left Crete at 7.05 am and landed on a sandy beach in Santorini at 11 am.

"Everything went fine," an airport official said.

The official timing of the record will be announced later. "The whole of Santorini is on the move and about 1,000 people gathered at the beach giving Kanellopoulos a hero's welcome," Costas Georgiou, an eyewitness, told Reuters.

"He looked fine, very happy and champagne was everywhere," he added.

Broke

Tower officials said the Daedalus broke apart after landing but the pilot was not hurt.

The flight aimed to recreate the legendary flight of Daedalus and his son Icarus, who are said to have flown on wings of wax and feathers from Crete to the Greek mainland 3,500 years ago.

According to the legend, Daedalus reached the mainland but Icarus flew too close to the sun and fell into the sea when his wax wings melted.

Seminar on social aspects of hijacking

THE Kuwait Pilots and Flight Engineers Society organised a seminar on the social aspects of the hijacking of the Kuwait Airways Corporation jetliner.

The seminar was attended by Dr Ahmed Al Rubel, Faisal Al Zamel, Abdul Aziz Al Taher, and Captain Sami Al Nisif.

Dr Al Rubel said that Arab countries had no strategic concepts on events, although Arabs were facing a Zionist enemy that had built his power on an organised strategic basis.

He referred to the assassination of the Palestinian deputy commander-in-chief, Khalil Al Wazir, and said he considered the Tunisian complaint to the UN Security Council as a shameful reaction.

He referred to a book by the Hebrew Publishing House, saying the book spoke about the Zionist scheme during the 1980s. He added that the book called for bringing about a sectarian struggle in Arab countries.

Echo

He said the hijacking of the KAC jetliner fell within the context of this plan, and the Israeli appeal had found its echo in Lebanon. He said the statement sent by the hijackers was identical to those issued regularly by

Lebanese factions.

He said the hijacking was meant to increase the social and sectarian struggle, saying that the hijackers were intelligent and projected their objectives clearly when they released a specific group of hostages. This action gave a clear guide to the hijackers' mentality. He said the national awareness and the cohesion of the interior front had frustrated their plans.

Dr Al Rubel said the hijackers had believed that Kuwait's decision would not be firm and the government might buckle to their demands. But the hijackers were surprised when they heard that the people of Kuwait, and not only the government, had rejected their demands.

He said that lessons must be learnt from this incident, saying that Kuwait still faced Iran's obstinacy in continuing to reject peace initiative.

Media

Faisal Al Zamel spoke about the importance of the informational aspect, saying that the media could play a significant role in minimising the effects of terrorism and turning these effects from negative to positive ones.

He said that the Kuwaiti

media had played a positive role during the hijacking ordeal.

He said the hijacking incident had increased Kuwait's weight at the international level, because a small country had refused to succumb to terrorist blackmail while some superpowers had yielded to such blackmail.

He said the hijacking was a result of the Iraq-Iran war.

On the other hand Captain Al Nisif spoke about the technical aspects, saying it was difficult to storm a jumbo jet because the plane was a huge one.

Extradite

Headed that, apart from this, the hijackers had laid mines at the entrance of the plane.

Abdul Aziz Al Taher, a lawyer, said that Kuwait reserved the right to request Algeria to extradite the hijackers, saying this was according to the Tokyo and the Hague conventions.

He said the hostages had the right to claim compensation from KAC because of their negligence in providing security measures.

He said the blood money for the two passengers killed by the hijackers will be borne by the Kuwaiti government as long as the criminals were unknown.



Picture shows (from right to left): Abdul Aziz Al Taher, Captain Sami Al Nisif, Saud Al Zafiri, Dr Ahmed Al Rubel and Faisal Al Zamel.



Part of the audience

Injecting of children discouraged

A PEDIATRICIAN and fellow of the Faculty of Medicine in Britain Dr Silvia Shuhaiber recommended that the use of injections be discontinued in the treatment of children. She said that research has shown that the adverse effects of injections outweigh the benefits.

Describing the use of injections as obsolete, she said that some injections, such as penicillin, cause an allergic reaction. She said that if an accurate diagnosis is made, treatment will be effective.

Shuhaiber added that 95 per cent of the most frequently used antibiotics could be given orally, a method by which they could be easily absorbed in the gastro intestinal tract.

Message from Abdullah Saleh

HH the Amir of Kuwait received a letter from the President of Arab Republic of Yemen Colonel Ali Abdullah Saleh, it was announced today.

The Amir Diwan said that the message was delivered by the Yemeni ambassador here and was received by the Minister of the Amir Diwan Affairs Sheikh Khalid Al Ahmad Al Sabah.

There were no details on the content of the message.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

GCC achievements praised

KUWAITI newspaper Al Rai Al Aam yesterday praised achievements of the Gulf Cooperation Council and called for greater coordination between member states "to deepen the humanitarian and realistic dimensions of the group's collective work."

A front-page editorial said "we do not claim being idealistic regarding GCC record as the work laying ahead of us is not free of hurdles."

The paper criticised duplicity in governmental bodies of GCC states, saying this leads to contradictions with adverse consequences.

It pointed out that absence of coordination between group members regarding some recent crises has given other parties room for manoeuvre and leverage over the political decisions as demonstrated in the Iranian skirmishes and aggressions on Kuwait and other Arab Gulf states.

The paper called for greater efforts to unify and merge the economic funds of GCC states and link the lending policy to the borrowing nations' political attitude vis-a-vis GCC states.

Scrutiny of US policy urged

ANOTHER Kuwaiti newspaper urged a closer Arab scrutiny of America's policy in the Middle East, which it charged is grossly biased to Israel and designed to exacerbate regional problems.

"Else what does it mean for the US to sign a new strategic alliance pact with Israel declaring Tel Aviv Washington's prime ally outside NATO?" exclaimed Al Watan newspaper.

The daily pointed out that for the first time the pact would cover cooperation in a wide range of military field operations such as joint planning, manoeuvres, supply and logistics.

Al Watan noted that the US still continues to inject some three billion dollars into the Israeli economy annually to keep it afloat.

Diwaniya collapse not related to landslide

By Humoud Al Huwailjah

THE collapse of part of the diwaniya of a house in Al Dhaher area was due to some work on the building roof and was not related to the landslide that began last week in the area, the director-general of the National Housing Authority (NHA), Dr Ibrahim Al Shaheen, said yesterday.

He stressed that the evacuation was a precautionary measure, and after investigations showed that the hole had stopped enlarging and there was no more risk, the NHA permitted the owners to return to their homes except those whose houses were very close to the hole.

He said that a committee consisting of representatives from the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, Kuwait University, Kuwait Oil Company, the research station of the Public Works Ministry, the Electricity and Water Ministry and the NHA was formed to study the incident.

Dr Al Shaheen said the hole started on a road and not on land for construction. He emphasised that no damage was caused to any of the houses whether close to or far away from the hole.

Meanwhile, the assistant undersecretary for military projects at the Defence Ministry, Sheikh Sabah Al Nasser, paid an inspection visit to the area on Saturday. He met local residents and listened to their complaints.

He said the team found that the landslide was due to geological factors.

He said that nearby houses and several other adjacent ones were evacuated as a precautionary measure.

He said studies showed that the hole would have no effect on nearby houses, and it was filled with sand and concrete.

Denied

Dr Al Shaheen categorically denied that the collapse of part of the house was caused by a defect in its design and construction.

He said the incident started last Sunday, when a citizen saw his car sinking. The man called the emergency department of the Electricity and Water Ministry, the Interior Ministry and the Fire Brigade. The car was pulled out

US Navy chief calls oil rigs attacks textbook operation

ABOARD the USS Lynda McCormick in the Gulf, April 23, (Reuters): The most complex part of the US retaliatory strike against Iran last Monday was a "textbook" operation that went off exactly as planned, according to its commander.

Captain James Perkins, who heads destroyer squadron 9, said the results of the attack on the Sasan oil platform also bore out US claims that the facility was being used for military purposes.

"We believe that Sasan was a communications and surveillance station," said Perkins. "We found weapons, ammunition and communications gear."

Sasan, one of two Iranian oil rigs attacked by US forces, was neutralised in a 5-1/2 hour operation that began with a two ship naval bombardment, followed by a Marine "vertical assault" from helicopters and ended with Marine Corps demolition specialists blowing up facilities that had weathered the shelling.

Combined

Four Marine Corps helicopters took part, blasting the platform to help clear the way for an assault force of 150 Marines who rappelled down ropes from hovering helicopters.

It was the only one of the three separate elements of "Operation Praying Mantis," as the multi-pronged retaliatory strike was

codenamed, that involved troops, and the first time that such forces have been used by the United States in the Gulf since last summer, when ships carrying Marine combat units were first assigned here.

"It was a textbook example of how a combined Navy-Marine operation ought to go," Perkins said in an interview on the bridge of this warship.

The 4,500-tonne Lynda McCormick, a 27-years-old guided missile destroyer, and the 7,810-tonne destroyer Merrill fired 133 five-inch shells, 103 by the Merrill, at the platform.

Complete

The shells, using proximity fuses for air bursts above the platform, were about one tenth of the number used by four other US destroyers in the retaliatory raid on an Iranian held oil platform last October.

Officers said later that the majority of those shells had gone right through the spindly structure, requiring Navy demolition specialists to blow it up afterwards.

"My instructions were, no thousand rounds this time," said Perkins. "The Air bursts made that unnecessary. There's really no point in trying to knock the thing down by firing at the concrete and steel supports."

Kuwait complains to UN over Iranian missile attack

UNITED NATIONS, April 23, (Reuters): Kuwait has complained to the United Nations that Iran fired a Scud missile into Kuwaiti territory on Wednesday.

"Kuwait reserves the right to take appropriate measures in the face of this attack and holds Iran accountable for the legal and material consequences resulting from it," Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sabah Al Ahmad said.

In a letter to Secretary-General Javier Perez Cuellar published here on Friday, he said Kuwait had expressed its "extreme indignation and condemnation," and vehemently protests against this deliberate

and unjustified assault on the security and safety of Kuwait.

Kuwait complained on several occasions last year that its territory was the target of Iranian missiles.

Kuwait complained on several occasions last year that its territory was the target of Iranian missiles.

TV cooperation

THE Director of Kuwait Television, Salem Al Fahed, has said the coverage of the return of the hijacked airline passengers had demonstrated the cooperation between Kuwait and Arab Gulf countries in the media sector.

He said that stations from Qatar, Bahrain, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, BBC and Europe, participated in the live transmission of the passengers' arrival in Kuwait.

Al Fahed added that the cooperation displayed in obtaining the necessary coverage had made a positive impression on foreign TV stations who were competing to transmit the latest developments on the hijack.

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Deception was practised on Iran to recapture Faw

LONDON, April 23, (Kuna): A complex and lengthy deception was practised on Iran in the weeks leading up to the offensive in which Iraqi troops recaptured the Faw peninsula, according to a leading newspaper here today.

The London Times quoted "informed Western sources" in Baghdad as saying that the success of the 34-hour offensive to liberate the area was mainly due to the fact that Tehran had been led to believe that the Iraqi Army was about to launch a counter-attack in the north of the country.

Offensive

The Faw's recapture was considered the most significant Iraqi victory for five years, ending Iran's two-year occupation of this strategic area.

Examining the Iraqi methods, the sources said Baghdad chose to use stealth to launch an armoured attack over the mud flats of the Faw during the dry

season and it also attacked in Ramadan when things tend to go quiet normally because the soldiers are fasting.

In recent months the Iraqi high command had built up considerable numbers of troops along the southern front, of which Faw is the southernmost tip. But Baghdad conveyed the impression that these were deployed to counter an Iranian offensive against the region to the east of Basra.

Deceived

This seemed likely after Tehran appealed last October for volunteers for a "final offensive" against Iraq and began to post these recruits along the border not far from Basra, the Times suggested.

But the Iranian campaign did not attract the number of volunteers needed.

Furthermore, the paper revealed that just before the

attack, Iraq sent its Defence Minister and the Army's Chief of Staff and their deputies to the northern front. "The Iraqis were deceived by the ploy."

Iran was thus "robbed" of the chance to reinforce the Faw which it had connected to the country's mainland with three pontoons bridges across the Shatt Al-Arab waterway, the daily remarked.

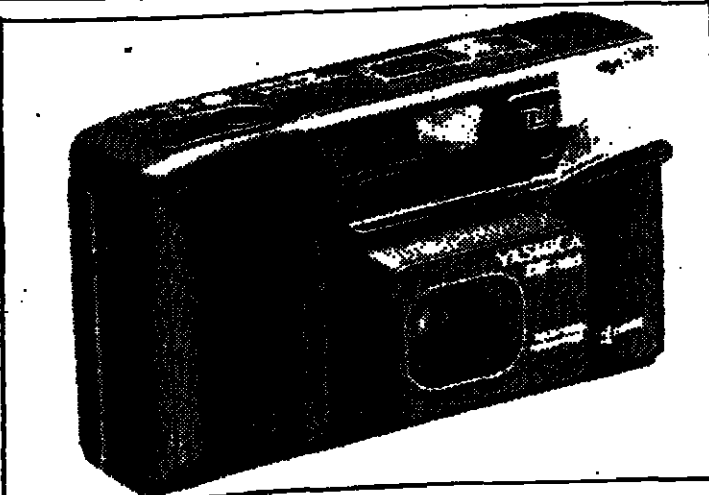
Another respected British newspaper, the Guardian, said that Western analysts believed Iran was unlikely to attempt to re-occupy the area and that the war would settle down into a period of renewed, but probably lower key attrition on the 800-mile front.

Hijack press conference praised

MINISTER of Information, Sheikh Jaber Al Mubarak Al Hamad Al Sabah yesterday expressed thanks to all staff members of the Ministry of Information for the efforts they exerted during the crisis of the hijacked Kuwaiti airliner.

Sheikh Jaber said the press coverage and the ideal way of the work of the ministry staff have been appreciated by Kuwait and its people during those hard times, which ended thanks to Almighty God and the instructions of HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

Sheikh Jaber also said that Kuwait has emerged stronger and more dignified from that crisis, and told the ministry staff that "this crisis has enabled you to contribute in embodying and consolidating the national unity which is our strongest arm in face of the challenges and crises which we passed through."



● The New Yashica DF-10S camera (above) provides carefree operation through a number of features, including built-in electronic flash, fully auto-electro-magnetic operation, highly legible LCD panel and all controls located on top. The camera gives the choice of two focal lengths. It also has a lens barrier/release lock and self-timer.

GOING PLACES

Time to move on

By Keith Wells

AT the end of the month, Kuwait is losing one of its best known personalities, television newsreader Selma Abbasi. Selma started working on Kuwait Radio in 1967, where she made music and travel programmes as well as reading the news. She joined KTV when the second channel opened in 1976. "I loved working on the television," said Selma with that famous smile and barely suppressed giggle. When I asked her what made her grin during the news she said, "The news is so depressing but I just have a cheerful nature." Viewers will be sad to see one of the best newsreaders leaving Kuwait.

Television but Selma says, "I feel it's time to move on. I thought I'd be over the moon about leaving, but the day I resigned, I cried. I've enjoyed it, it's been a good life and I've liked being a big fish in a little pond. People come up to me in the street and seem to really enjoy meeting someone they see more or less every day in their homes. It's lovely when that happens, and of course, having a famous face certainly helps with all the bureaucracy." That infectious giggle rings out again.

Selma is going to live in England and hopes to get a job on the BBC World Service, so maybe we'll all have the pleasure of hearing that familiar voice again.



Selma Abbasi



● The Holiday Inn's Housekeeping Department recently won the annual inter-departmental football championship. Above: The hotel's General Manager Jean Abou Nohra presenting the award to winners as Executive Housekeeper Rebecca Ahmed looks on.



● A branch of Atlas Jewellery was recently opened in Dubai by well-known Indian film star Geetha (pictured cutting the ribbon). The company's chief executive M.M. Ramachandran (left) is also seen. Atlas has branches in the Middle East and the US.



● The Bharathi Kalai Mandram, community in Kuwait recently presented a play on the problem of dowry and how it has affected the expatriates living in the Middle East. The programme was organised to celebrate the Tamil New Year's Day. Above: a scene from the play.



● The Bangladesh Social Welfare Organisation, Kuwait, recently celebrated the Bengali New Year with poetry recital, song and music show. Above: singers performing at the show.



● Two vocalists Doreen D'Souza (above) and Bader Siddiqi (below) pictured at a recent concert held at the home of Dr Tarakanath. Among the other notable singers from Kuwait were Shah Nawaz Karim and his wife, Sabina, and a host of musicians and instrumentalists.



TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 1.00 Holy Quran
- 1.10 Cartoons: Tao Tao
- 1.30 Magazine D'Actualite
- 2.30 Al Moatimid Bin Ibad: historical serial
- 3.00 On Ramadan: guests are Dr Abdullah Shihata, Dr Abdul Suboor Shatin.
- 3.35 Dukkan Al Duniya: Arabic serial, featuring Muna Wasef, Mohammad Al Ibad, Jayana Eid.
- 4.45 Tazawwaj Wa Ibtessam Lilhayat: featuring Samir Ghanim, Raghdah, Ahmad Badr.
- 5.30 Hadith Deeni: religious talk
- 6.30 Cartoons
- 6.45 After Iftar
- 7.00 Madinat Al Riyah: children's serial, starring Khalid Al

Obaid, Abdul Rahman Al Aqal, Jassim Nabhan, Mohammad Jaber, Huda Hussein.

- 8.00 Nazrat Alal Alam: cultural film
- 8.15 Diwanayat Shuara Al Nabt: poetry session
- 9.00 Dairat Al Khair: religious programme
- 9.30 Ramadan Contest: hosted by Huda Hussein
- 10.00 News in Arabic
- 11.00 Iz'aj: local serial, featuring Ghanem Al Saleh, Maryam Al Ghabban, Dawood Hussein.
- 12.00 Thaman Al Khauf: starring Noor Al Sharif, Hala Fuad, Amina Rizk, Jamil Rateb.
- 1.00 Al Warhaa: Arabic film, starring Ezzat Alaili, Madiha Hussein, Kamel, Fahmi.
- 2.20 News Summary/

KTV 2

- 8.00 Holy Quran
- 8.10 The Care Bears: cartoons
- 8.30 News in English
- 8.45 Football — The Amir's Cup: Al Salmiya vs Al Khaitan.
- 10.30 The Flying Doctors: "Dreams of Sand". A garage owner abandons plans to leave town, and an old man is injured in a mining accident.
- 11.30 Together We Stand: Comedy. Starring: Elliott Gould, Dee Wallace, Katie O'Neill, Ke Huy Quain, Natasha Bobo and Scott Grimes.
- 12.00 Late Night: Movies
- 1.30 News Summary/

RADIO PROGRAMMES

English

- Morning
- 0800 Opening
- 0802 Songs and Music
- 0830 News
- 0840 Songs and Music
- 0845 Daily Programme
- 0900 Bands With A Beat
- 0930 Songs and Music
- 1005 Our Press Today
- 1005 Songs and Music
- 1030 Pick of the Pop
- 1100 Closedown
- 1330 News on FM Service

FM Services

- 0800 Easy Listening
- 0830 News
- 0840 Easy Listening
- 1000 Songs and Music
- 1100 Country 'n' Western
- 1200 Songs and Music
- 1300 Easy Listening
- 1330 News
- 1400 Classical Music
- 1600 Easy Listening
- 1700 French Hour
- 1800 Pops
- 2130 News
- 2145 Pops
- 2200 Arabic Songs and Music
- 2300 Easy Listening
- 2400 Instrumental Music
- 0200 Closedown

Urdu

- 1900 Opening
- 1910 Beteroon Qaul
- 1916 Programme Preview
- 1920 Songs
- 1935 Press Report
- 1945 Ek Khayal Ek Geet
- 2000 News
- 2020 Songs
- 2040 Geet-Kahani
- 2100 Closedown

BBC World Services

- 0600 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Radio Newsworld
- 30 Musical Masters of the Baroque (ex 10th Play of the Week: Tartuffe)
- 0100 News Summary (ex 10th) followed by Play of the Week: 10th Tartuffe contd; 17th The Lion in winter; 24th Sarco-phagus
- 0200 World News
- 09 The Sunday Papers
- 15 Cannery Row
- 30 Album Time
- 0300 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 From Our Own Correspondent
- 30 Jazz Score
- 0400 News
- 30 The Seven Ages of Man

CINEMA TODAY

- Al Andalus
- Ice Pirates
- Starring: Mary Cosby
- Al Salmiya
- Latino
- Starring: Robert Beltrini
- Al Hamra
- Baah Nasar (Arabic)
- Starring: Bosi, Magdi Wahba, Najwa Fuad
- Drive-In
- Hikayat Nus Million Dinar (Arabic)
- Starring: Yahya Fakhrani, Itham Shahin
- Al Firdous
- Kali Dada (Hindi)
- Salaikhath
- Valley Girl
- Ahmad Drive-In
- The Road of Selfless Love

- Fahsheel Open-Air
- Shor (Hindi)
- Starring: Manoj Kumar, Jaya Bhaduri
- Al Fahsheel
- Malayalam Film
- Al Jahra
- Tarana (Hindi)
- Granada
- Anohnee (Hindi)
- Al Jleeb
- Kaiyettum Doorathu (Malayalam)

PRAYERS

- Fajr 3.47 am
- Zuhr 11.46
- Asr 3.21 pm
- Maghreb 6.20
- Isha 7.42

WHAT'S ON

THEATRE

Kuwait School of Contemporary Dance

The company will present two ballets "Carnival" and "The Never Ending Story" from April 25 to 29, 8.30 pm nightly, at the Mousetrap Theatre, NES, Jabriya. Tickets KD 4. The box office at the Mousetrap is open daily from 4 to 7 pm. For telephone bookings ring 5610673, 8 am to 1 pm.

Antidote

Antidote, a Kuwait Players show of quick fire adult comedy sketches ranging from the subtle to the plain crazy, will be held at the Universal American School, 7.30 pm from May 11 to 15. Tickets — KD3. For reservations ring 5613465; 5610925 (pm) or 5611546.

Folk Night

There will be a meeting of the Kuwait Folk Group on Wednesday, April 27. For more information contact Bob Stucker, 5320284.

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Fahed Salem Street

Al Hafez Pharmacy
Souk Wafeg, Salah Al Din St.

Salmiya and Rumalithiya
Dena Pharmacy
Shua Al Sabah Bldg., Amman St.

ARTS

Sultan Gallery

"The Islamic Heritage of Spain" is open daily from 10 am to 1 pm and 7 to 10 pm at the Sultan Gallery, Thunayan Al Ghanim Bldg., Al Soor St.

SOCIAL

YMCA Holiday Special

The Young Men's Cricket Association (YMCA) will hold the Holiday Special on May 17, Messilah Beach Hotel. Highlights are music by Top Ranks with special competitions such as Made for Each Other contest and Funky King and Queen. For reservations contact Lancy — 4814914, 9 am to 4 pm, 3981790; 3929518, 5 to 8 pm.

Story Time

There will be story time for children on Thursday, April 28, at 10.30 am. Children of ages between three and six, all nationalities, are welcome.

Kumustahan

The next Filipino get-together (Kumustahan) will be held from 6 to 9 pm on April 29 at the Church Hall. All Filipinos are welcome. Snacks will be served.

Hawalli and Nagra
Al Ikhlis Pharmacy
Opp. Andalus, Beirut St.

Fahsheel and Ahmad
Al Badiya Pharmacy
Mohd. Jassim Bldg., Dabous St.

Jleeb Al Shiyouk
Palestine Pharmacy
Munira Obaid Al Rajae Bldg., Main St.

Jahra
Al Noor Pharmacy
Abdulaziz Nasrullah Bldg., Matafi St.

SPORTS

Kuwait Nomads Rugby Club

Calendar for May:
May 1: Full match at Fintas. Kick off: 7.30 pm. Attendance compulsory for Cyprus tourists, all others welcome. Match followed by tour meeting to pay outstanding monies.

May 5: Game at Fintas. Men vs women plus kids — kick off: 4.30 pm. Attendance compulsory for tourists. Game followed by BBQ — KD2.500 per head.

May 10: Club A.G.M. at Gazelle Club, 7.30 pm.

Palarong Filipino

The slogan for this year's Filipino Mini-Olympics is "Batakan Ng Buto '88." To avoid inconvenience at the start of the mini-Olympics on May 17 at the Keifan Stadium, Kapilku urges all Filipinos to

get their 1988 ID cards, available from the Philippines embassy and Mabuhay Restaurant.

A meeting of all tennis participants will be held on April 28, 6 pm, at Mabuhay Restaurant. For details contact Bong Melencio - 4877793.

Raft Race

The captains' meeting for the second Kuwait Annual Raft Race will be held on Tuesday, April 26, at 8 pm in Al Foz Suite, Messilah Beach Hotel.

Goson Cup Tournament

The Young Goson Association, Kuwait, will hold a seven-a-side football tournament on the first day of Eid Al Fitr at the Al Sour Grounds. The draw will be held on the same day at 7.30 am. Tournament commences at 7.45 A. The tournament is open to all communities, subject to approval by organisers. For details contact Tom — 2419409; Almeida — 4813892 ext. 232.

HOTELS

At the Hilton

La Palma restaurant offers daily iftar buffet with thirst quenchers. Laban, Aryan, Kamal el din, jellab, soups, mezzeh, special Oriental dishes and Oriental sweets. Open from sunset to 1.30 am. A special a la carte menu will be offered after iftar from 8 pm to 1.30 am.

At the Holiday Inn

Al Ahmad Coffee Shop offers special Ramadan buffets with Arabic and Continental buffets after sunset until 2 am. Sample Oriental delicacies including fowl and falafel at the Ramadan Diwaneya for breakfast (iftar).

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STOREKEEPER with 8-10 years experience as store-in-charge for a leading organisation dealing in electrical materials and accessories.

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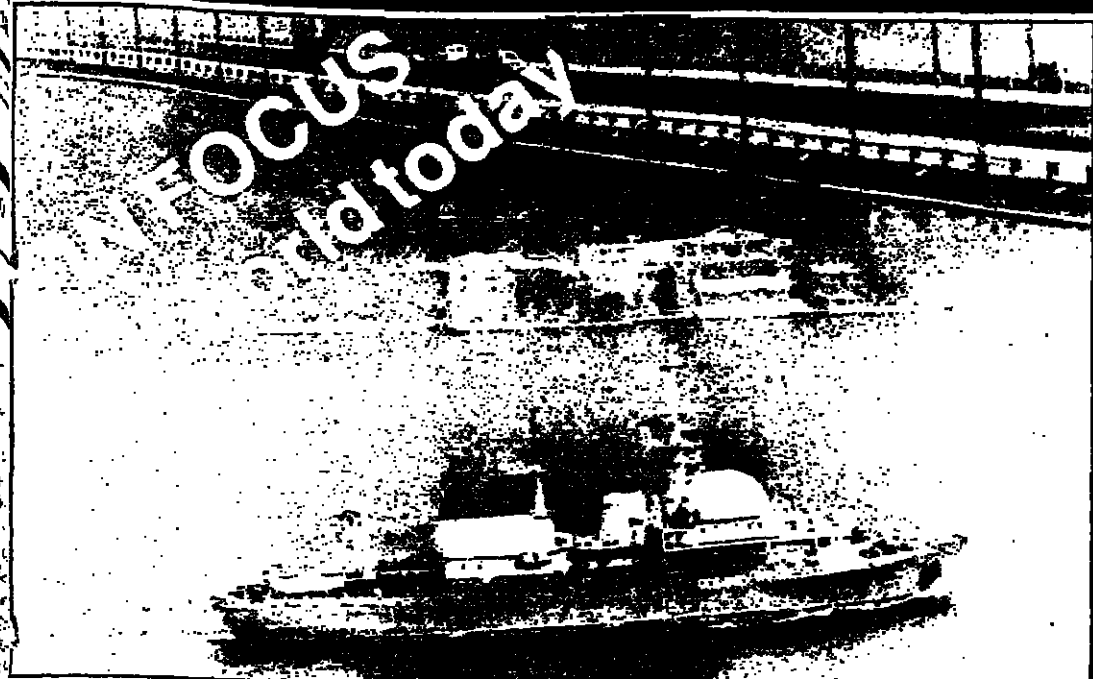
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FOCUS
A Soviet Navy intelligence collector of the Soviet Navy, Krym (OC8-590) heading for the Mediterranean, passes under the second Bosphorus bridge connecting Istanbul's Asian and European sides. The Primorye class military intelligence ship is carrying 110 personnel and SAM 2 QUAD SA-N missile launchers. (Reuter wirephoto)



A FRENCH negotiating team is surrounded by Syrian troops and plain-clothes men at Beirut airport shortly after they flew in aboard a private jet yesterday. The team arrived amid growing speculations of an imminent release of three French hostages held in Lebanon. (Reuter wirephoto)



BRITISH Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who is more used to being in front of the television, tries her hand behind the camera while visiting a television station in Nottingham on Friday. (Reuter wirephoto)



SPANISH National Policeman struggles with a Catalan separatist as police arrested several radicals after they set off loud firecrackers as King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia arrived at the Regional government for ceremonies marking the 1,000th anniversary of Catalonia in northeast Spain on Friday. (Reuter wirephoto)



FRENCH President Francois Mitterrand, who is the French Socialist Party candidate, raises his arms to welcome the crowd at his arrival at Le Bourget tonight. The French go to the polls today for first round voting that will select the two candidates who will face each other two weeks later on May 8 in the second round vote. (Reuter wirephoto)



SOUTH AFRICAN Archbishop Desmond Tutu shakes hands with people while on a two-day visit to Birmingham, England on Friday. Tutu criticised cabinet reforms announced by Pretoria as 'crumbs of conscience.' (Reuter wirephoto)



MICK JAGGER leaves the Federal Court building on Friday at the conclusion of the second day of a copyright infringement suit brought by Jamaican reggae singer Patrick Alley, who claims a song he wrote in 1979 and recorded in 1983 constituted 'the whole roots' of Jagger's hit 'Just Another Night.' At left is Tony King, album coordinator for Jagger. (Reuter wirephoto)



SOVIET Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze is all smiles while holding a news conference in Moscow on Friday. (Reuter wirephoto)



ELLA CRUZ, mother of slain naval Petty Officer Angela Cruz who was killed in Naples, Italy, by a terrorist bomb, watches as a Navy Honour Guard carries her daughter's casket on Friday at the Marion Oaks Presbyterian Church, in Ocala, Florida. Petty Officer Cruz was buried with full military honours following the funeral. (Reuter wirephoto)



DEMOCRATIC presidential candidate Michael Dukakis addresses Ford Motor Company employees in Maumee, Ohio, on Friday. Accompanying him are Ohio Lt. Gov. Paul Leonard (left) and Maumee Mayor Harry Baros. (Reuter wirephoto)



A WORKMAN, rather than a gardener, waters the foundations of these realistic looking giant flowers that will greet visitors to the Glasgow Garden Festival in Scotland that will be opened soon. The flowers, 50-foot high lilies, are made from fibre glass and metal and are set on a dockland site transformed into a tourist attraction. (Reuter wirephoto)



THE 'Stealth' bomber, shown in this US Air Force artist's conception, will make its first flight this fall, the air force announced last week. The top-secret bomber, using radical new construction materials and design, is designed to strike deep into hostile territory while avoiding radar detection. (Reuter wirephoto)



GAME show hostess Vanna White and Sylvester Stallone pose for photographers during the annual dinner of the White House Correspondents' Association on Thursday. (Reuter wirephoto)

EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

A FEEBLE body weakens the mind — Jean Rousseau, French philosopher (1712—1778).

S. Korean National Assembly elections

Roh Tae-Woo faces major battle

By Barry Renfrew

SEOUL, South Korea, (AP): President Roh Tae-Woo's government is battling to win crucial legislative elections, and overcome the effects of widespread public distrust and revelations of high-level corruption.

The ruling Democratic Justice Party is expected to win the largest number of seats in the April 26 national assembly election, but it may have trouble retaining its majority. Government failure to keep control would be a major boost for the opposition.

Roh, who began a five-year term in February, says the government must retain control of the assembly to keep its promises of sweeping democratic, social and economic reform. He accused the opposition of dividing the nation and fomenting unrest.

"I still believe that the history of hate and darkness can never be resolved through revenge, and that love and reconciliation are the only cures," Roh said during the campaign.

Surveys by leading South Korean newspapers indicate his party may fall short of its goal of winning 125 of the 224 assembly seats to be decided by voting. The surveys indicate the DJP is assured of some 65 seats and is neck-and-neck in about 80 other districts.

Divided
Another 75 seats, beyond the 224, will be divided on the basis of how many votes each party gets.

During former President Chun Doo-Hwan's term, the government party always had a majority in the assembly, whose members were not directly elected by public vote. The assembly's power has now been increased by a new constitution, and the president can no longer dissolve it.

The rival opposition parties have repeatedly failed to unite against the government, and they are seen as having little chance of winning in these elections. The parties depend largely on regional support.

Many opposition supporters are disillusioned by the disunity and squabbling for power between Reunification Democratic Party leader Kim Young-Sam and party for peace and democracy leader Kim Dae-Jung.

The two Kims symbolically resigned after losing to Roh in the presidential race, but remain in full control.

Roh, meanwhile, has not won

broad public acceptance. Many Koreans are distrustful of Roh as a former general who helped put Chun in power with military backing in 1980.

The opposition parties have attempted to discredit Roh and the DJP over a corruption scandal involving Chun.

Chun's younger brother, Chun Kyung-Hwan, was charged March 31 with embezzling a fortune in cash, stocks and land while he headed the semi-official Saemaul development programme. A government probe uncovered extortion, influence peddling and theft.

The opposition parties claim the government has exposed only part of the corruption, and that Roh and other top leaders helped cover up corruption when they served under the Chun administration.

"The DJP's call for overwhelming support for what they describe as social stability is nothing but a clear-cut expression of its determination to prolong rule by military officers tainted by political interests," Kim Young-Sam told a rally.

The government has fought back by insisting the corruption was revealed because of Roh's promise during campaigns for December's presidential election to expose corruption under his predecessor.

Democracy
South Korea has experienced significant political liberalisation since last summer, and most controls on political activity have been dismantled. Roh has promised full democracy as quickly as possible.

Roh has attempted to cut his ties to Chun and his authoritarian rule. Chun, who hoped to retain some power, was forced to give up his remaining posts as a result of the corruption affair, and his hardline loyalists in the DJP were purged.

"The sooner Roh cuts the sticky link between the fifth and sixth republics, the more stable will be the new government," said political commentator Kim Myong-Sik.

Hundreds of thousands of people took to the streets last June in massive protests against the Chun government. Roh backed opposition demands for elections at the height of the violence.

Roh won the presidency in the Dec 16 elections with 36.6 per cent of the vote after the opposition was split by rival candidates. Some Koreans say Roh lacks legitimacy because he did not win a majority.

Corruption grows in Brazil

Sarney losing credibility

By Roger Atwood

RIO DE JANEIRO, (Reuters): Brazilian President Jose Sarney's government is facing a tide of corruption charges that analysts say are eroding his already low credibility.

Press allegations of abuses ranging from patronage in the civil service to illegal commissions on state contracts are undermining the government's image despite two decisions that consolidate Sarney's hold on power.

"The government's image has been atrocious for some time, and all these charges are only going to hurt it more," said political scientist Bolivar Lamounier.

"Even if some acts are not strictly illegal, they may be of very questionable morality," he said.

One former cabinet minister and an aide have been indicted for misuse of public funds.

Scandals

Three other former ministers, including ex-Finance Minister Dilsen Funaro, plus two of Sarney's top advisers have been called to testify before a congressional inquiry board looking into the payment of illegal commissions to firms with state contracts last year. Inquiry board members say the payments cost taxpayers around \$700 million.

Funaro and the other officials have not been charged, but news of the scandal has fuelled the suspicions of millions of Brazilians that their government

has become a bottomless well of patronage, payoffs and criminal waste.

A new word — "marajas" — has been coined for highly-paid, well-connected bureaucrats whose only function seems to be to swell the ranks of the public payroll.

The current wave of corruption charges began in January, when Planning Minister Anibal Teixeira resigned amid a storm of press allegations that he had used ministry funds to favour his friends and advance his career.

Three weeks ago, Teixeira was indicted for his alleged role in the illegal payment of \$128,000 to the town of Valencia. His aide Lucio Verissimo was also indicted.

Corruption

Police say their probe into the planning ministry's finances is the biggest corruption investigation they have ever undertaken, but press reports and former officials have suggested that it may be only the start.

"There are corrupt people close to Sarney, too close for comfort," former Finance Minister Luiz Bresser Pereira told reporters on Tuesday.

The daily newspaper Folha de Sao Paulo was largely responsible for bringing the planning ministry scandal to light and has sought to link Sarney's family with misuse of state revenues.

The charges have intensified since Sarney won two key votes last month in the 539-member constituent assembly now drawing up a new constitution for Brazil.

Double defeat may cool radical hot-heads

US puzzled by Iran's aggressive behaviour

AMERICAN officials are puzzled by Iran's new aggressive behaviour. But they are pleased that it provided the United States with an unexpected opportunity to hurt it. Nobody here is crowing publicly, but the overwhelming backing of the intervention by the US Navy testifies to the quiet satisfaction felt throughout Washington.

This time it was more than a slap of the wrist, it cost Iran oil and valuable naval vessels, and there is some hope that together with the Iraq's success in recapturing the Iranian-held Faw peninsula, it may cool some of the Iranian radical hot-heads.

Still, even if one assumes that the United States has been waiting for an opportunity to teach Iran a lesson, the initial American reaction to the military in international waters, was relatively restrained.

Mileage

Even the counterattack against the Iranian frigates could have been much more devastating had the Navy used all its firepower. In weighing the destruction of the Iranian ships against the successful retaking of the Faw peninsula, American experts attach greater importance to the latter. This Iraqi initiative came as a surprise to Western observers, and a pleasant one at that. It taken as an indication that the moral of Iraqi troops and their leadership have improved.

If the Iranians laid the mines in international waters, to damage American naval vessels in the hope that this will stimulate the US Congress into pressuring once again the administration into invoking the War Powers Act because it would require it to withdraw its warships within sixty days (unless Congress declares war or extends the deadline for thirty more days), they were mistaken.

The chairman of the powerful Senate Armed Services Committee, Sam Nunn, and others said last week that invoking the War Powers Act could mislead the Iranians into thinking that it would indeed lead to the withdrawal of the US Navy within those 60 days. There are some members of Congress, though, and they include Nunn who are

critical of the Reagan administration's decision to protect only ships in the Gulf.

They say that it creates the impression that the United States is tilting toward Iraq against Iran. They seem to be unaware that the decision of refuelling ships was done after the near-breakthrough of the Iranian forces near Basra when an Iranian military victory began to loom large.

For the United States it was the least dangerous way of expressing in a tangible fashion its determination to prevent Iraq's defeat without becoming a co-belligerent. Escorting US flagged ships therefore meant much more than simply protecting 11 ships. It was a political decision with broad implications.

In this connection, the Reagan administration and members of Congress not only welcomed, but were very much impressed with Kuwait's refusal to give in to the hijackers of the Kuwaiti plane carrying passengers, including members of the royal family. I have heard it said quite frequently that Kuwait has shown more backbone in dealing with terrorists than the United States, France or West Germany.

Primary

Those American officials who believe that there exists a serious division within the Iranian government between the radicals and the moderates, have advised the White House to tailor any responses to further provocations to how it will influence domestic politics. They, therefore, argue for restraint. But it is difficult for the US to take any policy decisions in advance since it is Iran which as the aggressor, holds the initiative.

However, to Americans the most important event last week was the New York primary election which ended in a decisive victory by Michael S. Dukakis, the Governor of Massachusetts. This victory was impressive enough to give him the momentum he needs for the remaining primaries and to make him the presidential nominee for Democratic Party.

By Marcus Ellason

LONDON, (AP): The Kuwaiti jetliner hijack has spawned plenty of proposals from governments, anti-terrorism experts and the public at large on how to tackle air piracy, but each idea invariably contains a serious pitfall.

They range from a West German lawmaker's suggestion that knockout gas be pumped into hijacked planes to the International Air Transport Association's call for an international brigade to fight terrorism.

The 16-day hijack drama, which ended Wednesday in Algeria, left a bitter-sweet impression throughout Europe, where it unfolded daily on live television broadcasts.

The anguish and frustration it engendered was reflected in calls to radio talk shows and letters to newspapers proposing various anti-hijack strategies.

There was rejoicing that the ordeal ended peacefully and that Kuwait apparently stood firm against demands for the release

Anti-hijack ideas abound, but so do the pitfalls

of 17 jailed pro-Iranian terrorists.

Experts noted that hijackings have fallen from 95 in 1969 to fewer than 20 a year in the 1980s. They also pointed to the difficulty the hijackers had in gaining permission to land the Kuwaiti Jumbo jet, saying it showed that the refusal of airports to deal with air pirates was almost universal.

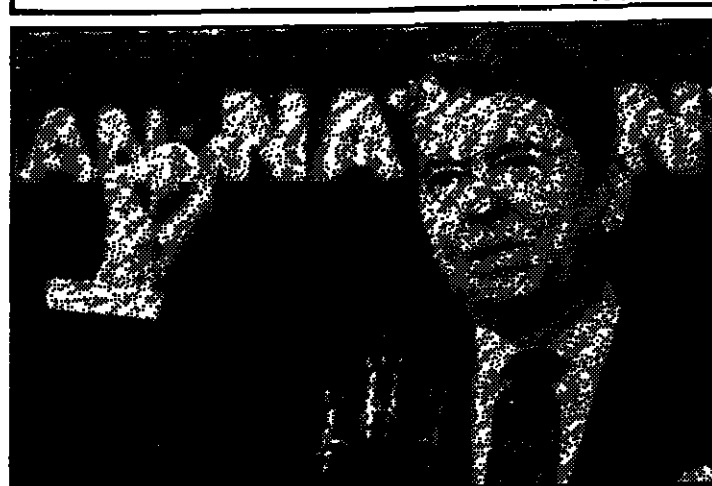
Outrage

But there was outrage that the nine hijackers who killed two passengers and put 31 other hostages through a horrifying ordeal apparently escaped unpunished. "At the risk of sounding churlish, the ending of one of the longest hijackings in aviation history is not an occasion for untrained rejoicing," commented the Independent, a London newspaper.

Experts said the biggest problem in preventing hijackings continued to be airports. Some are extremely strict, such as Tel

Inside Washington

By Henry Brandon



President Reagan comments on the United States' actions in the Gulf during a speech on Monday. Reagan said "we aim to deter Iranian aggression, not provoke it." (Reuters wire-photo)

Jesse Jackson, the black candidate, came in second, but did not do as well as many, including himself, expected. He won virtually every black vote, but he did not do as well among whites as he did in some other states. The reputation as an anti-Semite he acquired when he embraced another black leader, Farakhan, who declared himself an admirer of Hitler, no doubt hurt Jackson and the fact that Dukakis' wife is Jewish may have helped the governor in this particular primary. For Al Gore it was the swan song, he lost badly despite the outspoken support the mayor of New York Edward Koch, gave him.

Democrats' without much enthusiasm, are adjusting their minds to the prospect of having Dukakis as their presidential candidate. He is not well known, he does not electrify them. He is a managerial type not an idealist or a man of eloquence. His political message has not

impressed them, it is too vague and he does not appear to them a leader because he does not project that quality. Then how did he become the Democratic frontrunner?

It is a question that puzzles many. The answer, I believe, is simple. He ran the best organised election campaign and he had (or has) more money at his disposal than any other Democratic candidate. But, above all, his opponents, with the exception of Jesse Jackson, were weak and unconvincing.

Jackson's handicap, of course, is that he is black and that it is hard for most white Americans to accept the idea of a black president. Considering this handicap, though, he became quite a formidable candidate.

Assets
What are Dukakis' personal assets? One that has considerable appeal is that he is the son of an immigrant Greek family who made good. He likes to remind

audiences that he is the product of the American dream. He, therefore, has the ability to define the hopes and aspirations of the American people.

He also stresses that as governor of Massachusetts he managed to balance his state budget, an argument which counts especially in this year's election campaign since the next president will have to deal with the huge budget deficit he will inherit from the Reagan era. Dukakis can claim that he succeeded in balancing his state budget, that he therefore knows how to manage his finances. He can also claim that he has grasped the fact (ahead of Reagan) that the problem is not anymore how to spend the tax payer's money but how to stimulate economic growth. Being able to point at his economic successes helped to convince many that he is a competent technocrat which may be more important these days than proclaiming a long-term vision.

His own managers, though, complain that he has so far failed to tell his own success story as governor convincingly, that his inability to move and inspire people and to turn them into enthusiastic followers, is a major political handicap.

He is too cool, too reserved, too matter-of-fact to be an effective communicator. It is also the main reason why so many Democrats openly express the doubts they have about his candidacy and why so many among them believe that he does not have it in him to defeat Vice President George Bush.

Good many go so far as to say that 1988 is not the year for a Democratic president because he will have to cope with an economic recession that could hurt the Democratic Party for years to come. In their despair many Democrats still hope for a recession before the November elections, even though most economists believe that this is unlikely to happen. They base their view on a number of facts which, indeed, prove that the economy is relatively strong, certainly stronger than is indicated by the sceptical and erratic behaviour of the stock market.

Unemployment has further declined and so has inflation. People seem to have confidence

in the future for they are spending quite heavily, alas, still far too much on imported goods than is good for the huge trade deficit. Economic growth too is more substantial than had been predicted earlier this year.

Risks
Much has been made of the risks inherent in the huge holdings of American treasury bonds by the Japanese, and their pivotal role in financing the American budget deficit. It is true that refusing to buy new ones, could seriously undermine American financial stability, but it would also hurt their own and further harm private Japanese investors own only about two per cent of the marketable federal debt and have absorbed only 4.5 per cent of the new Treasury financing on the average since 1983 when they began to play a more influential role.

Still, the possibility of a decline of the inflow of foreign capital to finance the American budget deficit was probably one of the causes for the precipitous decline in the stock market last October and last week when it suddenly dropped by one hundred point. But the experts believe that it will be the state of the economy not the state of the stock market that will decide whether a recession will set in before election day.

One of the most bizarre performances of Congress surrounds the trade bill. It reflects the irresponsible mood Congress is in and the extent to which elections influence the legislator's thinking.

It matters to them more to satisfy their various political constituents than the national interest. President Reagan has already made it clear that he will veto the bill if it contains a provision requiring foreigners to register with the Commerce Department if they own American real estate or five per cent or more of an American company.

There are several other provisions the president is strenuously objecting to, and it seems that the Democrats in Congress don't mind if the bill is killed by a presidential veto, for they will still be able to claim that they tried their best to protect their constituents' interest and that it was a Republican president who is to blame for killing it.

Assassination of Khalil Al Wazir

Blow to US Middle East plan

By Carol Giacomo

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): Widespread accusations that Israel was behind the assassination of PLO leader Khalil Al Wazir are being seen by US officials and analysts as a blow to an already floundering American Middle East peace plan.

"We remain committed to pushing ahead with this peace process," State Department spokesman Charles Redman told reporters this week.

But, referring to Wazir's killing on Saturday, he added: "Certainly in that context, this kind of violence is not going to be part of the solution."

Wazir, the Palestine Liberation Organisation's top military commander who had coordinated the four-month Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories, was assassinated in Tunis by a group of gunmen.

The United States has not publicly laid blame for the killing. Tunisia, other Arab states and the PLO have blamed Israel for the precision machinegun killing of Wazir, known as Abu Jihad (father of war).

Accusation
Israel has neither denied nor confirmed the accusation. However, Israeli sources told Reuters that responsibility for the death of the PLO's military chief lay with Israel's Mossad Secret Service, the Israeli Navy and an elite Army unit — an explanation Washington experts

accept as most plausible. "This is a new phase, a declaration of war by Israel," Middle East expert William Quandt of the Brookings Institution, told Reuters. "It makes it hard to see the PLO joining the political process in any way — which may be what Israel wants."

There was speculation that Israel hoped it might quash the Palestinian uprising by killing Wazir. But his death has already fanned more violence in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, where at least 159 Palestinians have died in four months of protests against 20 years of occupation.

The unrest prompted Secretary of State George Shultz to embark on a new peace plan in February, which had run into serious trouble in Israel, Jordan and among Palestinians even before Wazir's death.

Self-rule

The plan calls for an interim period of Palestinian self-rule and an international conference as a means to direct Arab-Israeli talks on a final solution to their conflict.

Palestinians and other Arabs insist that only the PLO could represent Palestinians in negotiations, while the United States maintains that only non-PLO Palestinians could participate and then only in a joint delegation with Jordan.

If there was even a chance the two sides could reconcile, the Wazir attack "makes a peaceful resolution and compromise

more difficult and encourages a hardening of attitudes," said one US official who asked not to be identified.

Analysts said the murder would serve only to harden hostile attitudes in the region and make Shultz's job of trying to woo Palestinians to his plan ever more difficult.

Violence

Most analysts interviewed by Reuters said they expected the violence in the occupied territories to be exacerbated by Wazir's death, at least in the short-term.

"I don't know what the gain is" for Israel, said Clyde Marks, a Middle East expert with the Library of Congress.

The United States has taken pains to avoid laying public blame for the assassination. Redman condemned the act, saying: "Violence is not the solution to the problems of the Middle East."

But, owing to what some analysts say are the acute sensitivities of the close US-Israel relationship, he and other officials carefully sidestepped blaming Israel.

"I don't have anything at all on responsibility. We don't know," he said.

Commenting on the measured Reagan administration response and the silence from Congress on Wazir's assassination, a foreign policy adviser to one senior Republican senator said: "It is against the PLO after all."

By Michael Roddy

YAMOUSSOUKRO, (Reuters): BUILD A new road in Africa and it can turn out to be a highway for disease.

Health specialists in Rwanda say a new highway linking Ruhengeri in the north to the southern capital Kigali exposed northerners to malaria for the first time and has increased malaria deaths 96 per cent since 1984.

"The improved road allowed movement from one region to another and the transport of infections from one region to another," said Celestine Sezibera, a malaria specialist from the tiny Central African country.

"The people in the north were not used to malaria and they fell sick," he said.

Sezibera spoke at a two-week international conference in Ivory Coast's inland capital last month attended by 300 health workers and researchers from 40 countries. Unicef and the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The main topic of the conference, funded by the US Agency for International Development and the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC), was combating childhood diseases.

Progress
Many researchers whose work is supported by an eight-year \$9 million US-backed programme called combating childhood communicable diseases reported progress against such childhood killers as measles, diarrhoea and malaria.

Dr Joseph Davis, director of international health programme

little trouble obtaining the clearance cards.

West German lawmaker Johannes Gerster suggested a gas to "put the hijackers and passengers to sleep lightning quick." The danger, some experts said, was that if the gas failed to work instantly, it would leave the hijackers enough time to detonate explosives.

Machinery

Clutterbuck said sophisticated machinery was being developed to detect explosives thermally or by neutron bombardment. But such equipment would be very expensive, he said in an interview.

The Geneva-based International Air Transport Association (IATA), representing 168 airlines in 114 countries, proposed new international courts to try hijackers and an international commando brigade.

But Geldard called this "a

Utopian dream" saying in an interview: "It's difficult enough to get collaboration even with firm allies. In a lot of countries the different intelligence agencies don't even cooperate among themselves."

IATA spokesman David Kyd recalled the 1978 summit at which the seven leading industrial nations threatened sanctions against countries that fail to bring hijackers to justice.

The threat has only once been implemented, against Afghanistan, he told British Broadcasting Corp. radio.

Clutterbuck said: "In a perfect world it would of course have been far better if the hijackers hadn't been released. But I think that would have been too much to expect."

But Kyd said that by releasing the hijackers, Algeria had set itself up as "a soft touch" for terrorists. If it means prolonging the suffering of other hostages aboard an aircraft, then so be it."

Disease is just down the road in Africa

mes for CDC, said that before the 13-nation programme began, treatment of malaria had been "chaotic." He said the programme had succeeded in "systematising treatment."

The countries participating are Burundi, Central African Republic, Ivory Coast, Gambia, Guinea, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, Swaziland, Togo and Zaïre.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1521 — Spanish rebels are defeated at Villalar, Spain, and leaders of anti-Hapsburg movement are executed.
- 1617 — Concino Concini, Marquis D'Angre, is assassinated by order of France's King Louis XIII, and Charles D'Albert, Duke of Luynes, takes charge of government of France.
- 1819 — Turkey, after lengthy negotiations with Britain, obtains Parga from Ionian Islands.
- 1898 — Spain declares war on United States after receiving US ultimatum to withdraw from Cuba.
- 1909 — Army of Liberation captures Constantinople (Istanbul) from rebels.
- 1961 — At conference of Congolese leaders, Katanga's President Tshombe denounces Congolese Republic's President Kasavubu for his agreement with United Nations, and is arrested after walking out of the conference.
- 1967 — Soviet cosmonaut Vladimir Komarov is killed when parachute straps of his spacecraft get tangled during landing attempt.
- 1969 — Jordan's Premier Rashid Karami resigns amid dispute over government's restrictions on Palestinian commandos.
- 1970 — China launches its first earth satellite.
- 1971 — Soviet cosmonauts link up with unmanned earth satellite prior to attempt to build world's first orbiting space laboratory.
- 1975 — Thousands of Vietnamese refugees are being flown to US island of Guam as communists move rapidly in their takeover of South Vietnam.
- 1986 — Pre-dawn bomb blast damages British Airways office and other stores on London's busiest shopping street.
- 1987 — A supreme court overturns South African President P.W. Botha's censorship decree which wassisted previous December.

Clint Eastwood deals with the good, bad and ugly

A day in the life of a celebrity mayor

THE Mayor stood on a draughty street corner, his eyes slitted in concentration as he studied a set of building plans. A pretty girl passed the group of civic dignitaries, debating whether or not the roof of the proposed building wasn't just a smidgen too high. Suddenly the Mayor looked up, gave the girl a megastar smile and said a friendly: "Hi!"

He has just made her day. And probably her daydreams, too.

Clint Eastwood, Dirty Harry turned City Father, makes it his business to be on first-name terms with as many of the 4,709 inhabitants of his square-mile kingdom as he can.

No chain of office. No robe or sash. But with the quiet confidence of a good guy who is used to wearing the white hat, the towering figure of Mayor Eastwood commands instant

Departing Mayor Eastwood has spent two caring years helping his little town to grow up. Writer Frank Durham watched him walk tall through the less-than-mean streets and into the council chamber.

respect. And, it is to be noted, there are no punks in the seaside resort of Carmel, California.

Neither do they eat hamburgers in the street, wear bikinis or have vulgar slogans on their houses. And no industry, however refined, is allowed to bespurch the winding streets lined with cypress trees and vivid magenta blooms.

But, as the city mourns the fact that Clint is about to turn in his badge, they speak of a conscientious and — for Carmel-by-the-Sea — a radical mayor.

Don't talk of electioneering as a publicity stunt when you drink in the town's discreet bars. You will get a reception as cold as the Silver Bullet beer. Clint has been a mayor who has gently pushed a town with a 30 per cent population of over-65's into a modern age of change.

With that deceptively soft voice, which is the terror of screen baddies, he is helping the town to make a fistful of dollars in a dignified manner.

Opponent

Although he still casts a long, cold shadow over the odd opponent who wants to do things he doesn't like. And he plays that game to win, firing off legal and municipal volleys of paper.

I went up to Carmel — never mention the vulgar tag "Clintville" — to see the mayor at work on his last but one town council meeting day. And I spoke to a few of his loyal subjects along the way.

The night before the five-member council met to deliberate on such things as parking and bus stops, I dropped into Maxwell McFly's Watering Hole.

It was here on that memorable night two years ago, when Clint won his landslide election victory, that he downed a celebratory drink.

Bar tender Deborah Canepa and waitress Maureen Curtis remember it well. Also the day Clint was spotted lining up at the post office. And when he dropped down to the school...

No shrinking megastar this. No wimpy Michael Jackson. Mayor Eastwood isn't afraid to keep a high profile.

Dark-haired Deborah, warm as her Italian origins, was enthusiastic about her first citizen. She told me: "He has

lived here a long time. Clint's not a big star just breezing into town. We're used to seeing him around.

"He has a house at the beach here and another in the Carmel Valley nearby. He has been a very conscientious mayor and I think it's a pity that he's not standing for another two years.

Slim, blonde waitress Maureen has two small children — Elliot and Roland — and they have all met Mr Mayor. She told me: "Clint went to our pre-school fundraiser and had his photograph taken with the mums. And he went down to the school for the Christmas pageant. We liked that."

The next morning, Clint's Big Day, dawned cold and wet. With the small-town hospitality that typifies Carmel, Councilwoman Elinor Laiolo turned up to give me a lift as the council spent the morning moving from place to place.

They were letting friends, enemies and neighbours have their say on the very sites where content in reigned. Decisions were made on the soggy spot, as rain dripped off the worthies' umbrellas.

At the first site an irate 80-year-old man, his accent still thick with his European origins, harangued the councillors long and savagely about a bus stop. He wanted a nearby tree cut back and the sidewalk changed.

A television camera crew's interest melted visibly as the council debated the issue, minus Mayor Eastwood.

We passed on to a corner where an elderly man wanted to build another driveway. His neighbours had dark suspicions about his motives. The camera crew vanished.

On to the site of a proposed two-storey home and guest house. Plans were produced and held firmly against a bitter wind. The councillors were deep in conversation when, suddenly, one looked immediately over my shoulder and said mildly: "Well, look who's here."

Mayor Eastwood had materialised like some Pale

Rider. He moved beside me and began to question the plans with obvious expertise. After all, it was a planning proposal that had made him run for office in the first place. And maybe the desire to settle a score...

It happened like this — Clint sought approval four years ago to remodel a building next to his local Hog's Breath Inn. But his plan to build a lift shaft 18 inches higher than allowed by the building code was turned down. And Clint had to redesign the project.

So he decided to take part in the decision process himself and was elected to the \$100-a-month job of mayor. Then came Clint's revenge. One of the councillors who had rejected his plan, himself submitted an application to raise his roof.

The council, with Mayor Eastwood abstaining, turned the project down.

Now, standing on a bleak corner, Clint was listening to objections that the roof of the proposed new house would spoil a neighbour's view. It was, said the objector, too high. "Hum," opined the Mayor, "we will make a decision on the matter at our full meeting this afternoon." Then he strode off into the drizzle.

Scene

The scene changes to Carmel Woman's Club. It is 4pm and it appears that half of Carmel wants to pack into the hall to see their superstar mayor take his last but one meeting.

Every chair was taken by the good, the bad and the ugly. A Swedish photographer was chided for setting up his tripod in one of the aisles.

An official whispered: "You can take photographs between items. But no flash — the Mayor doesn't like it." It seemed the Carmel-by-the-Sea had become quite professional at handling the world's press at its modest meetings.

Then, as suddenly as he had appeared in the morning, Clint Eastwood materialised on stage. This time he was wearing his official mayor's outfit... his Dirty Harry frame fitted snugly



Mayor Eastwood: the respected good guy with a touch of showbiz

into a sober grey suit. A dark blue tie set off a tasteful, light-blue shirt.

The Main With No Name, silver-haired, bespectacled and affable, had been transformed into Mr Mayor, a worthy and respected good guy. With just a piquant touch of show-business thrown in.

When Lois Jones, administrative assistant, Public Works



Film star Clint Eastwood patrols the mean streets in Pale Rider, but in real life he keeps a low profile in Carmel.

Department, was due to receive her award for 22 years of loyal service, Mayor Eastwood left the platform and came on down to hug the enraptured Ms Jones to loud and sustained applause from the floor.

Then, with wit and perspicacity, Clint guided the council through the domestic issues that are the life blood of local authorities, committees and

gatherings the world over. The only difference was the punctuation of business by the clicking of camera shutters.

Clint, whose earnings per hour could probably buy a property in Carmel, devoted patient time listening to both council members and local people have their say. A glass roof for a restaurant... trouble with the public conveniences... worry about where the tour buses are going to park...

Sometimes it seemed as though it would need Dirty Harry's Magnum to stop the stream of speakers. But Clint nodded amiably, sometimes pushing on the action with remarks like: "Quick — let's have a motion here before the wheel stops."

The meeting finished and the people of Carmel, 350 miles north of brash Los Angeles, dispersed into the soft Californian dusk. They will miss their superstar mayor, who rode away into the sunset after the city's April 5 meeting.

Clint says he wants to spend more time with his children. Kyle, aged 19, and 15-year-old Alison live in the Carmel area with 57-year-old Clint's ex-wife, Maggie.

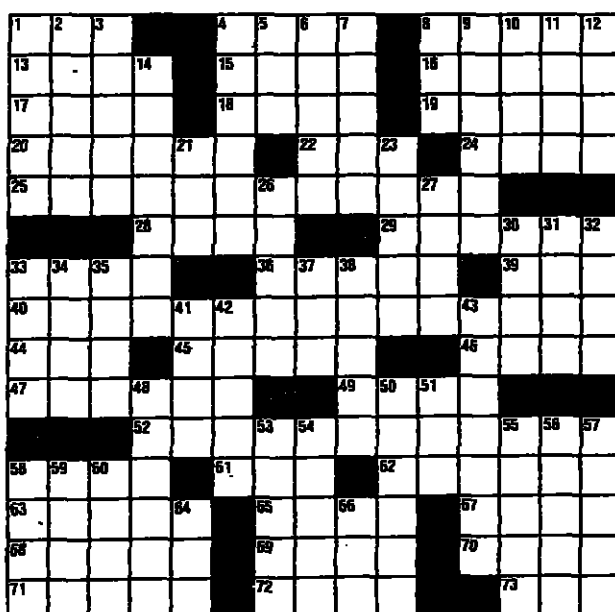
He explained: "I've really enjoyed being mayor. But I have to take care of the personal stuff first. If you miss time with your family, you wonder whether it's retrievable. Sometimes it isn't."

"The children are at an impressionable age. I don't want to live with any regrets that I didn't share things with them."



Souvenirs of Clintville: badges and ladies' underwear bearing the slogan: 'Go ahead Clint — Make my night'

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Espionage agent
 - 4 Mideast father
 - 8 Special efforts
 - 13 "O! — I Sing..."
 - 15 Actress Patricia
 - 16 "— Grows in Brooklyn"
 - 17 Wander
 - 18 Nerve
 - 19 Boutique
 - 20 Infuriate
 - 22 Grass
 - 24 Remnants
 - 25 Casual shoes
 - 28 "End as —": Willingham novel
 - 29 Deadly
 - 33 Gravy dish
 - 36 Anton or Day
 - 39 College subj.
 - 40 Lotte Lenya vehicle
 - 44 Merkel of the movies
 - 45 Proportion
 - 46 Paradise
 - 47 African republic
 - 49 Greek theaters
 - 52 Thrifty one
 - 58 Strike
 - 61 Afternoon ritual in London
 - 62 African desert
 - 63 Misplaces
 - 65 — mater
 - 67 Actress Gray
 - 68 Perfect
 - 69 Stadium area
 - 70 Religious denomination
 - 71 Arctic explorer
 - 72 Ship's wheel
 - 73 Partners of 8 Down
- DOWN**
- 1 — throat
 - 2 Make a call
 - 3 Pine
 - 4 Actress
 - 5 Lansbury
 - 6 Soft wood
 - 7 "— Me"
 - 8 Dads
 - 9 Confirm
 - 10 Press
 - 11 Larry Shue play, with "The"
 - 12 Understands
 - 14 Spring
 - 21 Sports area, for short
 - 23 Postpone
 - 26 Beginning
 - 27 City on the Truckee
 - 30 Pay attention
 - 31 Land plot
 - 32 Bank negotiation
 - 33 Thermal units: Abbr.
 - 34 Expression of dismay
 - 35 Ancient Syria
 - 37 Before corn or cycle
 - 38 Peeping Tom
 - 41 Perry's creator
 - 42 Enamel
 - 43 Georgia beauties
 - 48 Show up
 - 50 Enchant
 - 51 Alfonso's queen
 - 53 Below, in poetry
 - 54 Ivy League
 - 55 Seraglio
 - 56 Writer Jong
 - 57 Carries on
 - 58 Take a spill
 - 59 Mineral deposit
 - 60 On a cruise
 - 64 Cunning
 - 66 Brooks or Ferrer

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

LOOP ROTIA BRASH
AMBI OWE AORTA
GADL ANNA NATAL
ONEARMEOBANDIT
SHED DES
LATTER SCUD PAM
EGRET MAUL BASE
HEARTFELT THANKS
ANDS ANTE ARDEN
RTE EDDY TIRADE
TRE PALE
TREASURE ISLAND
SHUNS SEAL ISEE
POSSE ELL NEAR
ASTER DYED GATE

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠83 ♥AQ7 ♦K983 ♣AQ76

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

Pass 3 ♣ ?

What action do you take?

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠Q872 ♥Q762 ♦8543 ♣7

Your partner opens the bidding with a forcing bid of two hearts. What do you respond?

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠963 ♥A8 ♦KQ7653 ♣A6

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♣ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 ♣ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠K5 ♥KJ8 ♦AQ7652 ♣K6

What is your opening bid?

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠7 ♥AJ954 ♦AK7 ♣9832

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♥ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠8 ♥AK9762 ♦872 ♣AJ3

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

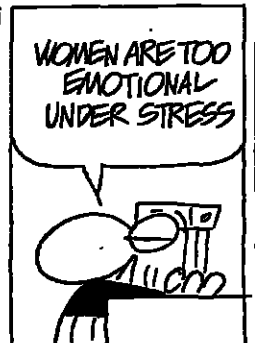
1 ♥ 2 ♣ 4 NT Pass

5 ♠ Pass 6 ♣ Pass

What action do you take?

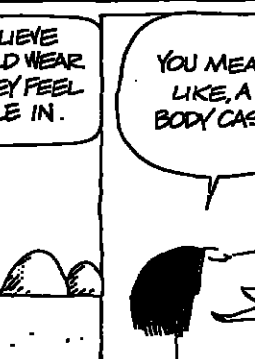
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will be able to have an extremely pleasant day. You should put love before all else. Do have good laugh at yourself. Be cordial.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

Do not be too proud to apologise, on the contrary do so even if the fault is not entirely yours. If you feel tired get up an hour later, but do not be lazy. Put your health first. Be sincere.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

Today you will find it easier to make up your mind. Make sure you do what you know you ought to do. Take your mind off work for the day. Be reliable.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You will have to take special care not to give offence. Do not do things in such a hurry that they are slapdash. You should not neglect an important personal matter. Be tactful.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Do not concern yourself with secondary matters. Try not to get into an argument. Make sure you get enough rest. Be a little more generous.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

The moon's influence will tend to make you feel rather more aggressive. If you have made an appointment do not be late for it. Avoid making a promise it would be hard to keep. Be moderate.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

A cold or other infection must not be neglected. You should try to avoid mistaking what is not important for what is. Do not dwell on what might have been. Be more polite.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You should try to ensure you do not allow a good opportunity to pass you by. You should not be too much of a chatterbox. Avoid thinking negatively. Be frugal.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

This is going to be a good day for you. You will be able to make it up with an old friend. You should not spend too long dwelling on the past. Be prudent.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

You should avoid falling into a trap. There is no need to feel depressed, but you must not think that luck will take care of it all. Do not rely on others to do things for you. Be considerate.



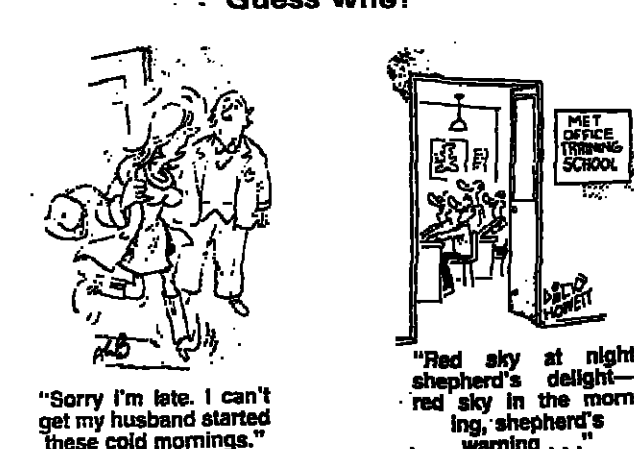
Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

The situation is a little involved so tread extra carefully. You should not pretend to expertise you have not got. Do not allow jealousy to become predominant. Be sensible.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You will be able to give effect to a good idea. Something will happen to reassure you. You will have occasion to use your intelligence to the full. Be reasonable.



SNIPPETS

Evacuation from Tehran under way

THE Department of Foreign Affairs announced that the evacuation of dependents of personnel in the Philippine Embassy in Tehran is now proceeding despite the difficulties and hazards brought about by the so-called "War of the Cities".

The department said embassy dependents were tentatively slated to leave Tehran for Dubai between April 15 and 30, adding that the embassy was having booking problems because Iran Air had reduced its weekly flights to Dubai from four to two flights and had also changed aircraft from a Jumbo 747 to a smaller plane.

The Philippine Airlines representative in Dubai, Abelardo Santos, extending all possible assistance to the embassy in its evacuation plan. Coordination and assistance were also being extended by the Philippine Embassy in Abu Dhabi which had secured entry/exit visas for the dependents.

Club owners bribing councillors

OPERATORS of nightclubs and other "fun houses" have put up a huge fund to pay off members of the Manila city council and other city officials and keep them from enacting an ordinance that would phase out nightspots from the Ermita and Malate areas.

A city councillor, who spoke on condition of anonymity, yesterday said he was among those approached by a "lobbyist" for the operators, but he turned down the bribe. He did not say how much was offered to him.

The councillor's disclosure coincided with an announcement made by the council's joint committee that it was setting aside the proposal for the immediate phaseout of the "fun houses."

Guns seized at Ninoy airport

AIRPORT customs men at Ninoy Aquino International Airport foiled an attempt to smuggle into the country 19 assault rifles, handguns and assorted ammunition from the United States.

The arms and ammunition cache was found by customs officials packed inside two big boxes during routine checks of incoming cargoes at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport warehouse.

Airport customs chief Elizabeth Guerrero said they held for questioning two representatives of a brokerage firm who tried to claim the boxes with the guns.

The two boxes came in aboard Japan Airlines flight 741 and were sent from Chicago by a certain "E. Cuachon" to P. Cuachon of Mansiligan Subdivision in Bacolod City.

The transfer of the cargo from the US to Manila was arranged by Chicago-based RCT Cargo Transport Inc., Guerrero said.

Founding in the boxes among several pieces of clothes were five Ruger Mini 14, a Ruger Rouck rifle, a Ruger MK IV and 12 guns of different calibers. Several magazines and assorted ammunition were also discovered, customs police said.

Illegal job firms warned

VICTIMS of illegal labour recruiters may soon have justice faster through the Supreme Court's designation of some regional trial courts (RTCs) to try illegal recruitment cases.

Sen. Alberto Romulo warned illegal job firms, saying "this judicial innovation is contained in Senate Bill No. 403 which I filed to minimise the exploitation of applicants of overseas jobs."

Despite laws imposing stiff penalties on illegal recruiters, the rate of conviction by the courts is very low, Romulo said.

"Thus, thousands of poor families have been victimised by unscrupulous recruiters, causing their loss of property or little savings," Romulo said.

The proposed law vests the Supreme Court with the power to designate two RTC branches in Manila and at least one RTC in every region as special labour courts, Romulo said.

These courts will exercise original and exclusive jurisdiction to hear and decide all cases arising out of prohibited recruitment activities and practices, Romulo said.

The special labour courts will be required to decide petitions filed with them in 30 days.

The decisions of these special labour courts will be appealable to Court of Appeals by way of petition for review, Romulo said.

One nuke attack = 5m dead Filipinos

By Cynthia P. Allamigne

THE United States military bases in the Philippines contain an arsenal of nuclear arms, and whether the Philippines has external enemies or not, a nuclear war between the United States and the Soviet Union is likely to include the US bases in the Philippines as targets of nuclear attack.

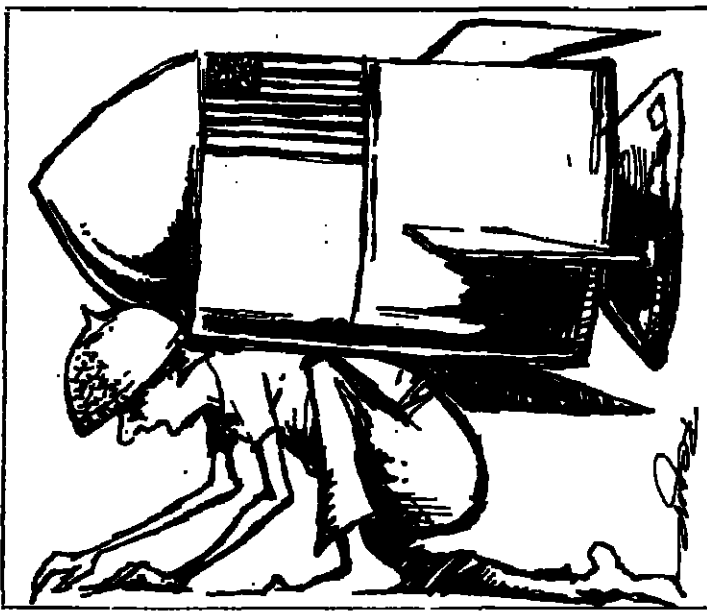
Ma. Socorro Diokno, secretary-general of the Anti-Bases Coalition (ABC), in a forum sponsored by the National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP), also said recently that a nuclear attack will leave millions of people in and around the US bases dead, severely injured or terminally ill.

While nuclear weapons were designed with great care, said Diokno, there is also the possibility of an accidental explosion. The presence of nuclear arms in the US bases is doubly dangerous for the country.

For instance, said Diokno, in the event that a one-megaton bomb were dropped in JUSMAG (Joint US Military Advisory Group) offices in Quezon City, 1/100th of a second after detonation, nothing would remain standing within a radius of five kilometres. About 9,000 Filipinos would be dead, with residents in the Quezon City area and San Juan most affected.

Most buildings would have been turned to rubble.

Several seconds after detonation, in San Miguel, Pandacan, San Miguel, Quiapo, Sta. Cruz, San Juan, del Monte and parts of



Paco, Sta. Ana, Tondo, Caloocan and Mandaluyong. 1,250,000 men, women and children would be dead, while hundreds of thousands would be severely injured.

Eighteen seconds after detonation, 750,000 Filipinos would be dead in Makati, Ermita, Malate, Sta. Ana, Paco, Intramuros, South Port, San Nicolas, Binondo, Tondo, Navotas, Marikina, Pasig and portions of Valenzuela, and Pasay. Over one million others will be seriously injured.

Forty seconds after detonation, 170,000 people would be dead in Paranaque, Pasay, Pateros, Taguig, Taytay, Cainta, Antipolo, San Mateo, Obando, Meycauayan and the rest of

Malabon, Navotas and Valenzuela. Half a million others will be injured.

If attacks were to occur simultaneously at Clark, Subic, San Miguel and JUSMAG, 10 per cent of the country's population — 5,150,000 — would perish.

Some 2.4 million would die as a result of the blast, 1.2 million as a result of burns, 1.3 million as a result of radiation sickness, and 250,000 will later die from cancer.

While it has been the policy of the United States to neither confirm nor deny the existence of nuclear weapons and nuclear weapons components, anti-bases proponents agree that, given the role of the US bases in the superpower conflict, nuclear weapons and components are undoubtedly stored in the US bases in the Philippines.

According to Diokno, the US bases in the Philippines house facilities which play major roles in the US "C3I" systems — Com-

mand, Control, Communications and Intelligence — which are the basic control and support components of the US Nuclear strategy.

Among the support facilities for C3I in the US bases in the Philippines revealed Diokno, are:

1. The Naval Ocean Surveillance Information System (NOSIS), a worldwide system to correlate, evaluate, analyse and disseminate information on targets, on, and under the above the oceans (San Miguel Naval Communication Station in Zamboanga plays a vital role in the NOSIS System and would be used in the event of war, for "horizontal targeting" in ship-launched US Tomahawk missiles;

2. The "Giant Talk" Command and Control System, which supports the US Strategic Air Command (SAC);

3. The Simplified Processing Station, a back-up facility of the Defence Support Programme, the US major missile attack warning system;

4. Signals Intelligence (SIGINT), or electronic surveillance facilities operated by the Pentagon and the Central Intelligence Agency; and

5. Anti-satellite radar stations which track Soviet launches of satellites.

It is thus likely, in view of the high military value of these facilities, that the start of a nuclear war between the US and the Soviet Union would immediately trigger an attack on the US bases at Angeles and Olongapo, and Diokno.

Philippine News and Features

Troublemakers stay clear

Witchcraft thrives in Siquijor

By Joel Palacios

SQUIJOR, Philippines, (Reuters): Witches and faith healers stir cauldrons of rival poisons on this tiny Philippine island, fighting a never-ending battle between good and evil.

For generations, witches have huddled over strange, steaming brews striving to improve their power to punish or kill.

For generations, faith-healers have been devising ways to stop them.

The mountains of this island of swaying palms and white sand beaches, 400 miles (640 km) south of Manila, are the secret heart of witchcraft in the Philippines, a predominantly Roman Catholic country.

"It's a kind of black magic, evil power," said Catholic priest father Carmelito Torres. "The church admits there is evil power which can be possessed by an evil person."

Residents of Siquijor tell of gruesome witches' spells which magically introduce insects and animals into the bodies of human victims, killing them slowly and painfully.

Reporters were allowed to watch normally secret ceremonies earlier this month attended by witches from all over the Philippines.

Over Easter, witches — poor farmers and fishermen dressed in rags — gathered around a fire which kept a black liquid boiling in a clay pot on the ground.

"The cooking is done on Good Friday because church bells do not ring on that day because Jesus Christ is dead and all the evil spirits are out," a witch said.

An 80-year-old man stirred the broth with a coconut shell ladle, while his 40-year-old son supervised the cutting up of small pieces of the more than 1,000 ingredients they claim go into the broth, or "salak".

Everything from tree bark to rocks, sand to sea creatures — even human bones dug up from a cemetery — goes into the salak, which means evil poison in the local dialect.

The broth turns dark green in colour.

The son pulled a human skull from an old rice sack and said: "With the use of the salak I can order the spirit of this skull to hurt or kill a person."

Another witch, a middle-aged rice farmer, said if a hair or nail clipping from the victim was brushed with salak and then thrown into the sea, the victim's stomach would become bloated at high tide.



Benigno Amis mixes a potion used by Philippine witch doctors to inflict pain and kill their victims in the island of Siquijor.

Also using salak, insects such as bees or beetles could be ordered to enter a victim's body to gnaw away at his or her internal organs, the witch said.

The people of Siquijor recount how a Chinese merchant who overcharged his customers died an excruciating death with a mysterious bloated stomach.

They say a post mortem revealed an entire rooster in his belly, feathers, feet and all.

The witches of Siquijor — the females are thought deadlier than the males — usually practise their craft in caves and isolated forest hideaways.

One of the most feared is Ambrosia Sumalpong, a 94-year-old grandmother who claims she cured Imelda Marcos, wife of former President Ferdinand Marcos, in 1977 of a rare skin disease.

Residents say that when Sumalpong goes down to her home in the mountains, bus drivers are afraid to collect her fare.

Elsewhere on the island, faith healers cook a near-identical broth, adding to it candles and flowers taken from a church and

religious images blessed by a priest.

Prayers are recited during the cooking of the broth called Sum-pak (antidote) invoking god's powers, said 66-year-old faith healer Victoriano Laure.

"When used against the salak, it can deflect its effects and return it to the body of the witch responsible for it," Laure said.

In one ceremony, a group of faith healers armed with knives and sticks went through the motions of a fight around a long table laden with food and sum-pak.

Others carried porcelain bowls they tapped with a stick as they stepped barefoot on burning coals spread on the ground. In the background, a man played a guitar.

"This ritual is intended to invite the spirits to perfect our medicine," a member of the group said.

Orlando Fua, the island's congressman, says the witches of Siquijor have such a terrifying reputation troublemakers stay clear.



Bar girls back US bases

By Roger Garcia Jr.

OLONGAPO CITY: Thousands of bar girls, base workers and residents rallied for the retention of the American facilities in military bases here in the biggest pro-bases demonstration ever staged in the country.

The rally was held to preempt the plan of some 1,000 anti-bases activists to hold a rally in front of the main gate of Subic naval base, one of the two key American bases in the country. Anti-bases activists were forced to postpone their rally.

Some 3,000 most of them bar girls, disco dancers, barmen and waiters from the city's honky-tonk district, marched around the city's main thoroughfares carrying placards reading, "We need the US bases to support our families" and "Communists go home."

They urged US Servicemen to ignore the growing anti-American and anti-bases sentiment and continue to make the Philippines their "home away from home."

Placard-bearing bar girls joined by children and residents here greeted the anti-bases

group, most of which came from Bataan and other nearby provinces. The group was said to be a member of Philippine Peace and Solidarity Council-Bataan chapter and the Anihan ng mga Mangagawa sa Agrikultura.

Pro-bases delegations coming from Zamboanga also arrived in buses.

No untoward incident happened. Policemen and soldiers in complete battle gear were deployed near the gate of Subic naval base and checkpoints were set up around the city.

Multi-sectoral groups and nightclub owners organised the biggest pro-bases rally ever assembled in the country.

A bar girl said she joined the rally since her main source of livelihood was at stake.

"Kami ang unang appektado kung mawala ang base militar dito. Dapat lang na ipaglaban namin ang aming karapatan (We will be the ones to be affected first if the military bases go. It's only right that we fight for our rights)," said Cindy Marino.

"These are the only jobs we have," she said.

Overseas workers lament

By Orlando F. Aquino

FILIPINO contract workers in Eastern Saudi Arabia have decried the inability and inaction of the Department of Labour and Employment (DOLE), particularly the labor attaché assigned to the place, on their complaints against their employers.

They made mention of the "mounting problems" of Filipino workers in that eastern province, which has the largest concentration of Filipinos in the entire kingdom. But because of the refusal of the labor attaché to act on them, the problems have remained "unattended to" and continue to fester.

Lying

"Many Filipinos who have sought his assistance found him uncooperative, insincere, lying untruthful of the plight of the workers and evading responsibilities," they said in a letter to Consul Abraham Estavillo of the Philippine embassy in Riyadh.

They sent copies of the letter to top government officials in the Philippines, namely, Executive Secretary Catalino Macaraig, Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus, Labour Secretary Franklin Drilon, Senate President Jovito Salonga and Speaker Ramon Mitra Jr.

"Maybe you also know that the Filipinos in this area are the most neglected compared with other Filipinos in the central and western regions," they said.

"While it is true that we have an embassy office, this did not ease at all the worsening and increasing problems of Filipino workers here."

They charged that the labour attaché does not want it known that his office has been opened. "Obviously, he does not want to be involved with the Filipino community and its attendant labour problems," they said.

Treasure hunters get 60-day extension

MALACANANG has granted a 60-day extension of digging permit to the treasure hunters at Fort Santiago but imposed new requirements before they could resume operations, National Security Adviser Emanuel Soriano said recently.

Soriano, chairman of the committee assigned to supervise the diggings at the historic fort, said the International Precious Metals Inc. (IPM) will start working as soon as they comply with the requirements.

"We are very pleased with the extension," said George Wortinger, an American involved in the diggings.

Wortinger said they will definitely recover gold material from the site within the extension period, adding that they had pinpointed the exact location of the treasure.

One of the conditions imposed by the government, Soriano said, was for them to work closely with the Intramuros Administration committee composed of the National Museum and National Historical Institute.

The Nevada-based American IPM was initially required to pay a bond of P1 million to assure the restoration of Fort Santiago. The bond will be operational once the treasure hunters start working, he said.

Later on however, IPM was asked to give a deposit of P800,000 which will be forfeited if they do not continue with the work. Soriano said. No penalty will be imposed if the gold hunters fail to find any gold, he said.

"They'll resume work in a few days," as the IPM is about to produce the money needed, Soriano said. "Hopefully, there are no more hitches from hereon," he added.

When asked if he still believes that the treasure hunters will be able to find gold, Soriano said "I would not have recommended for its extension if I were not optimistic," he said.

The IPM will have to get a professional contractor and additional staff including structural engineers, mining engineers and geologists before they could start with their operations, Soriano said. He said the IPM has met with the Intramuros committee to plan details of their work.

Diggings at Fort Santiago stopped last April 5 after IPM failed to get a second extension of their permit. The original permit granted last December, expired March 4 but was extended by the President for another month.

President Aquino had granted the extension on the recommendation of Soriano. He declared when she announced the extension that any gold found in the area would be put to good use.

The IPM started work inside the powder magazine chamber of Fort Santiago last February. The diggings were kept secret until two Filipino workers were killed in a cave-in last February 22.

Soriano said the families of the victims have been paid P100,000 each with the burial expenses also paid by the IPM.

PBA basketball

Ginebra edge Alaska Milk

GINEBRA San Miguel recovered in time from its usual homestretch collapse to eke out a 123-121 victory over Alaska Milk last week and fortify its semifinals bid in the PBA Open Conference at the Ultra.

From their biggest lead of 19, 114-95, the Ginebras committed four passing errors that enabled Alaska to launch a 15-0 uprising and inch to within 111-114, 3:30 left.

The Ginebras, however, leaned on charities by playing coach Robert Jaworski and import Jamie Waller to move to 118-112, 3:25 to go, that cushioned Alaska's rally to turn the game around.

Andrew Kennedy of Alaska led all scorers with 37 points in a losing cause for the Milkmen. It was the highest so far this season, topping the 55 made by Waller against San Miguel Beer in the first round.

Earlier, Great Taste Instant Milk cruised to an effortless 135-

105 triumph over listless Shell Helix to brighten its hopes of entering the five-team semifinals with a 3-3 slate.

The victory was the most lopsided thus far in the conference and it virtually slammed the door on the chances of Shell, which dropped to 0-6.

The GT Milkmen took the lead from the outset on a three-point play by Philip Cezar and never looked back.

So confident was GT coach Baby Dalupan that when he pulled out import Kenny Fields, the All-Filipino GT crew erected a 29-point lead, 104-75, early in the last quarter.

For the second time in a row, Shell played without prized center Manny Victorino, who is reportedly placed on the auction block due to differences with coach Joe Lipa.

The game also saw GT's Allan Caide score his 26th straight foul throw conversion this season. Now retired Bogs Adornado

holds the record of 69 straight hits from the stripes.

1ST GAME
Great Taste 135 — Fields 32, Carpio 23, Caide 19, Co 12, Cristobal 11, Jerez 9, Cezar 7, Fabiosa 7, Robles 5, Cabatu 4, Perez 4, Tualdes 2.

Shell 105 — Askew 37, Austria 18, Eguerra 17, Ang 10, Jalmasco 8, Antonio 6, Cordero 5, Guenco 4, Sanchez 0, Villapando 0, Magbanoa 0, Herrera 0, Quares 27-16: 55-42, 97-71, 135-105. Refs: C. Ocampo Jr., M. Felipe, E. De Leon.

2ND GAME
Ginebra 123 — Waller 51, Jaworski 19, J. Loyzaga 15, Gonzalo 13, C. Loyzaga 11, Ampalayo 10, Distrito 4, Isaac 0, Mamani 0, Advanti 0, Codignera 0, ALASKA 121 — Kennedy 57, Villamin 28, Pearson 18, Ravanes 10, Relosa 3, Saldana 3, Valenciano 2, Lim 0, Lazaro 0, Alpor 0.

Quarters: 29-34, 61-59, 98-84, 123-121. Refs: G. Ledesma, A. Barolome, L. Salak Jr.

TEAM STANDINGS

Team	W	L
San Miguel	5	4
Purefoods	4	2
Alaska Milk	3	3
Ginebra	3	3
Great Taste	3	3
Shell Helix	0	6

Top recruiter clarifies reasons

Nurses to be deported from US

THE deportation of thousands of Filipino nurses from the United States has nothing to do with any discrimination or leverage the US is exerting in connection with the current review of the American bases agreement in the Philippines.

This was the clarification made by Froy C. Fortich, general manager and president of Gulf Pacific Services and Trading Corp., one of the country's biggest recruiters of US-bound nurses.

"The deportation order has nothing to do with any discrimination or leverage as this affects not only Filipinos but all workers in the US employed under the H-1 visa," Fortich said.

Two years ago, the US Immigration and Naturalisation Services decided to limit the so-called H-1 visa to only five years. The INS ruled that after five years, the H-1 visa of a foreign

nurse cannot be renewed.

It means that after five years stay in the US, a nurse has to go home to the Philippines, and apply for a third or sixth preference immigrant visa petition, and can go back to the US as soon as her/his priority number becomes current.

Those to be deported back to the Philippines, according to Fortich, were the ones who lost their H-1 visa status when they failed to pass the state board examinations.

These nurses, he said, instead of going back home after they failed to renew their H-1 visas decided to go "TNT" and stayed in the US for five years.

Only those convicted by a US court of violating the immigration regulations or laws are deported, he said. "In all probability, these nurses will be given enough time to leave the US decently, and with good

records, because they have contributed the best part of their lives in nursing the sick in America."

"For many years, the US Immigration and Naturalisation Service has bent over backwards as far as Filipino nurses are concerned," Fortich emphasised, "when a Filipino nurse fails to pass the state board examinations, unless she or he obtains a new permit to practice nursing from the state board of examiners, technically, the nurse is out of status."

Fortich, who deployed from the 1980 to 1983 thousands of nurses mostly to the East Coast states, advised the Filipino nurses going to the US on H-1 visa to follow the Immigration regulations faithfully because the American government means business this time to implement strictly its immigration laws regardless of nationality.

A showbiz Aquino

WHEN Senator Butz Aquino's daughter, Jackie Aquino, agreed to play the female lead in Binibining Tsiperman with Roderick Paulate, she only wanted to see if she would like a career in entertainment.

Now that she has decided to make a go of it, Jackie is finding out that it's much easier to break into the business than to maintain her presence in it.

Perhaps it's because she star-

ted out as a leading lady. Perhaps it's because she is an Aquino. Or because she was paid a big amount for her first role. The fact remains that the offers have come few and far between.

But Jackie is more practical than most would expect her to be. "I know that I am new in the business. It would be ridiculous to expect lead roles all the time. I am perfectly willing to play support to any of our established stars," she says.

Jackie Aquino



Ramos

Ramos: Gringo is out to kill me

DEFENCE Secretary Fidel Ramos said that he believed fugitive coup leader Gregorio Honasan was out to assassinate him and that he had prepared his aides for such a possibility.

"I understand there are many hit lists. I know I'm probably in all of them," he told a news conference when asked about rumours that he was a target of assassination by the dismissed army colonel, who escaped from prison April 2.

He said he had given orders to aides starting with Armed Forces chief of staff Gen. Renato de Villa that "the business of the department and the Armed Forces must go on even if anything happens to Secretary Ramos."

Asked about the capacity of right-wing forces led by Honasan to mount a successful coup, Ramos said "their remaining capability really is now in the propaganda field, a hit-and-run sort of thing."

AFP

AIDS: African monkey theory based on scientists' mistake?

By R C Sabatier

PHYLLIS Kanki and Max Essex, of the Harvard School of Public Health in Boston, USA, led the teams that in 1986 announced the discovery of two new AIDS-like viruses, one in African green monkeys, and another in the blood of West African people. They thought they might have uncovered the origin of the AIDS virus.

Their "discoveries" became the central evidence in the theory that the virus which causes AIDS was descended from a virus in wild African monkeys, perhaps via an intermediate virus among West African people.

Kanki and Essex have now acknowledged (in a recent issue of the British science journal *Nature*) that their discoveries were a case of mistaken identity. The two viruses which they named do not exist — and never did.

How did the mistake occur? Five years ago, a Californian research centre reported that captive macaques and rhesus monkeys had since 1965 suffered occasional outbreaks of a disease resembling human AIDS. Later, different scientists isolated a virus from sick macaques. It was found to be similar to the HIV virus which causes AIDS in human — a result that still stands.

Where could the macaques, imported from Asia, have picked up their infection? Was it a disease of wild macaques? Apparently not, since scientists couldn't find any AIDS-like virus in wild macaques.

Could the captive macaques have been infected in the laboratory by monkeys of another species? This seemed possible. African green monkeys often shared cages with macaques in US research centres. Believing that AIDS was widespread in parts of Africa, Kanki and Essex decided to look for a common viral ancestor of both the macaque virus and the AIDS virus among wild African green monkeys.

Kanki and Essex tested blood samples from wild-caught African green monkeys and, they reported, they found a new virus which they named

IN 1985 and 1986, scientists announced the discovery of two new AIDS-like viruses, one in African green monkeys and another in human blood from West Africa. This became the main evidence for the theory that the AIDS virus originated in Africa. Now, two of the principal scientists involved say their results were based on a laboratory mistake. Their two 'new' viruses never existed.

STLV-3agm. Working with French and Senegalese colleagues, they also thought they had found a similar virus, which they called HTLV-4, in blood samples taken from healthy West African people.

Kanki and Essex' work suggested that STLV-3agm, their new green monkey virus, might have "crossed over" from monkeys into human beings, evolving into HTLV-4, which appeared not to cause any illness. They theorised that HTLV-4 might then have evolved further within humans into the HIV virus, which causes AIDS.

If the AIDS virus really did evolve this way, virologists would expect genetic changes to have occurred in the viruses as they moved from one species to the next, making each virus different from — though related to — the others. But when another group of Harvard researchers compared the genetic structures of the two "new" viruses, STLV-3agm and HTLV-4, they found them 99 per cent identical.

More surprisingly, the two "new" viruses were all but indistinguishable from the original macaque virus. In April 1987 the second Harvard group said it was startling to see such similarity between three viruses infecting three different species of animal. As a result, a cloud of suspicion descended on the Kanki and Essex results.

One possible explanation was contamination. Had the laboratory samples from green monkeys, and those from West Africans, become contaminated with the bug which triggered the search in the first place — the macaque virus? This sort of contamination is not unusual. Virologists regularly exercise elaborate laboratory care to avoid it.

So Kanki and Essex rechecked their work, and finally decided that contamination had occurred. It is to their



A 42-year-old AIDS patient in Abidjan is cared for by one of his two wives.

credit that they have now openly acknowledged this. Their admission will be welcomed by many African scientists who, from the first publication of the green monkey theory in 1985, have maintained that the evidence linking green monkeys with the AIDS virus was too weak to justify the conclusion that AIDS came from Africa.

The origin of the HIV virus has become one of the hottest scientific questions of the 1980s. Many scientists still believe that the AIDS virus could have descended from a bug of monkeys or another primate species — and indeed there remains a tangible link between the AIDS virus and an AIDS-like monkey virus in the form of the macaque bug.

Hypothesis

But the green monkey hypothesis went further. It suggested that the macaque virus had been introduced into the US from somewhere else, probably by green monkeys imported from Africa. Kanki and Essex' laboratory error makes this particular hypothesis less credible.

It is widely considered in Africa that the green monkey theory became popular at least partly because Westerners wanted to "blame" Africans for

starting the AIDS epidemic. But there is more research in the wings which could yet keep the green monkey theory alive. Independently of Kanki and Essex, at least three other groups of scientists, one in Japan and two in the US, say that they have isolated an AIDS-like virus from wild and captive African green monkeys. However, their findings have not yet been fully reported in the scientific press, nor been subjected to the scrutiny which eventually discredited the work of Kanki and Essex.

Scientific controversy about the origins of AIDS will undoubtedly continue. But the admission by the two US researchers that they made a mistake will have two important consequences.

First, theories which suggest that Africa, or any other developing region, was the origin of the AIDS virus will in future be regarded with extreme suspicion in the Third World.

Second, scientists who wish to retain their credibility will have to exercise much greater caution in speculating about the birthplace of the AIDS virus — at least until they have collected solid evidence to verify their claims. **Features**

Japanese devotees of 1950's, 60's American culture

It's yesterday once more in Japan

By Ana Puga

TOKYO. (Reuters): Born too late to experience the 1950s first hand, Tamami Inoue has taken to ritual viewings of films like *American Graffiti* and *Grease* for a taste of the golden age of American youth.

The 23-year-old shop clerk sighs and her eyes turn dreamy as she recalls her favourite scenes.

"I love the way American *Graffiti* opens. All the kids are hanging around the hamburger stand and you hear rock around the clock. 'I've seen it over 10 times, but it still gives me goosebumps,' Inoue says with a little shudder.

Inoue belongs to a small but passionate group of Japanese worshippers of American 1950s and 1960s culture. With her fellow devotees she shares heroes — Elvis Presley, James Dean, Marilyn Monroe — and an insatiable craving for 1950s-style clothes, memorabilia, cars and rock-and-roll.

To its Japanese fans, 1950s American symbolises power, wealth, excitement, carefree simplicity, and perhaps best of all, rebellion — a taboo in Japanese society.

"When the boys got together in groups, they were bad," said Inoue, who sports a ponytail, white socks and loafers. "They didn't care what anybody thought of them, even the police. Japanese young people are all worried about what their parents think of them."

The so-called "retro boom" began several years ago, when American nostalgia films gave millions of Japanese teens their first taste of sock-hop culture.

As adults, a few kept the craze alive by starting clothing stores, memorabilia shops, car showrooms, night clubs — even a museum and a shrine — with 1950 themes.

At the pink dragon shop in Tokyo, for example, fanatics can stock up on circular skirts, baggy pants, ribbons and hair grease.

Shelves lined with models of 1959 Cadillacs and miniature "traditional American" enjoyed while Japan was still recovering from the effects of World War Two.



Customers check out the 1950's craze merchandise in 'Network', one of the many shops in Tokyo cashing in on the 'retro boom' passion among some Japanese.

Another Tokyo shop, network, is a cross between a 1950s car showroom, petrol station and truckstop diner. Classic cars back in the glow of gasoline pumps, neon-trimmed wuritzer jukeboxes and Coca-Cola signs.

In those days, in America, people were big and strong and independent, in a way Japanese people could never be," said Yui Hayashi, the store's 24-year-old manager.

"You saw even old women driving alone in these big cars in a way Japanese women never would. In Japan, people's dreams were small, like the people."

Hayashi confessed he had just satisfied one of his dreams by spending half a month's salary on an 80,000 yen \$600 leather jacket modelled after the one Marilyn Monroe wore while entertaining US troops in 1954.

Network's owner, 42-year-old Takashi Komori, is one of the older generation of 1950s Americanophiles. He took 50 million yen (\$382,000) from his classic car dealership and invested it in a temple to the Eisenhower era.

"I opened network because I want young people to know this culture," says Komori, who drives a black 1959 thunderbird

upholstered with red leather. "I want them to know the singers like Paul Anka and Connie Francis. I want them to know Coca-Cola. Coca-Cola is America."

One of Tokyo's most successful nostalgia fanatics, Chiaki Motohashi of Atomic Motors, has proved that there's a fortune to be made in 1950s American cars.

The 30-year-old entrepreneur believes more and more people are realising that the 1950s were "the 10 best years of the 20th century".

"Today's cars, you could drive with one finger. They're all computerised this and that," Motohashi says, taking his hands out of the pockets of his New York Yankees baseball jacket to make little driving motions.

"When you drive a 1950s car, you know you're driving."

Motohashi has invested his new-found wealth in a 400 million yen (\$31m) Cadillac Station, complete with a "heart-break hotel", a museum, and a dance floor surrounded by classic Cadillacs.

He plans to crown his castle with a "Cadillac Shrine" featuring four of the classic cars floating on giant waves atop a 15-metre (yard) high structure.

Cadillac Station, however, is unlikely to replace the traditional gathering place for Elvis disciples — Kento's a nightclub with the motto "oldies but goodies, it's live, it's American 50s and 60s pops".

On one recent weekday, customers queued for over an hour for a chance to twist and jitterbug to tunes by Elvis, the Beach Boys and Bill Haley, all reproduced by a Japanese band.

Some regulars spoke of America with wistful affection, as if describing an older sibling whose heyday has slipped away.

"In those days Japan was poor and America was rich, majestic, king of the world," said one woman clad in an "oldies but goodies" sweat-shirt. "Now the dollar has fallen and there are trade problems. Japan is richer, but it will never be as great as America was then."

Cairo: no place for weak nerves

About five per cent of Egyptians suffer with their hearing, as anyone who ventures onto the capital's streets will understand.

By Fouad Hamdan

CAIRO. (dpa): Visitors to Cairo who are not used to the noise in this city of 15 million are well advised to stuff their ears with cotton wool before venturing out to the streets.

The rumbling of buses and cars mixes with the whine of motorcycle engines. Donkeys bleat, vendors shout above the din and jackhammers thud incessantly. And to top it all, there is the incessant honking of horns.

The constant barrage of noise has resulted in a high incidence of hearing ailments.

"About 5 per cent of Egyptians suffer from loss of hearing, that's 3 per cent above the world average," says Professor Salah Soleiman of Cairo's Ain Shams University.

"The constant honking of

car horns is to blame," says Soleiman, the only Egyptian professor for otology.

Soleiman measured noise levels of 88 decibels in Cairo's residential neighbourhoods and recorded 92 decibels in downtown Cairo — as loud as a jackhammer only 10 metres distant.

Being subjected to 90 decibels day in, day out, may result in hearing loss, according to medical data. But that's not the only danger.

"Constant noise also harms the nervous and circulatory systems. Aggression, depression and neuroses are the result," according to the professor.

As bad as the noise on Cairo's streets is, residents seem to have got used to it. Professor Friedrich Vester, a Munich noise expert, dis-



The streets of Cairo: so noisy that an estimated five per cent of the population suffers hearing problems.

covered when he visited the city recently.

"The Egyptians are so relaxed that they don't mull over one stress factor very long," he said. He also sympathised with motorists who keep their horns constantly.

"When the people honk their horns, it is a form of communication. It allows them to reduce stress," he commented.

The stress of Cairo has created new behavioural patterns, Vester noted.

He says he envies the Egyptians' ability to keep cool even when sitting in kilometre-long

traffic snarls in the choking heat. He calls their nonchalance in such high-stress situations remarkable.

"City traffic in Europe harasses people, terrifies them and makes them hyper-nervous. Motorists on Munich's ring-road are much more aggressive than those in Cairo," the professor adds.

"We Europeans unfortunately don't let go often enough, we just keep taking it. The Arabs shout and scream and let it all out — we could learn that lesson from them."

Court victory dismays art dealers

God Shiva versus metropolitan police

By Alison Beckett

THE VICTORY of a Hindu god in the British high court has caused consternation among the UK's art dealers and museums. The verdict may allow the Indian government to go to court to oblige owners of Indian artefacts exported from India since 1947 to return them without compensation.

The case was a bizarre enough event in itself. It was brought by the god Shiva against the metropolitan police and the Bumper Development Corporation of Alberta, Canada, for the return of an 11th century bronze dancing figure of the god.

Hunt

Since he could not actually appear, Shiva was represented by the Indian government and, on paper, by the Shiva Lingam, a cylindrical stone phallus, the deity's main physical manifes-

tation in any Shiva temple — although the phallus itself was not produced in court.

The statue was found to be part of a haul dug up in 1976 from the Arul Thiru Viswanathaswamy temple in Pathur by an Indian building a new house. He sold the Shiva for a few pounds. Today it is worth at least \$250,000, some believe much more.

After its arrival in London the statue, valued at about £150,000, was eventually purchased in 1981 by a Canadian oil magnate Robert Borden, chairman of the Bumper and a noted art collector.

The Shiva was sent to the British Museum for restoration. However, the museum became suspicious about the figure's origin and called Scotland Yard, who promptly impounded it. The Canadian firm, believing there to be no satisfactory evidence that it was stolen, eventually issued a writ

for its return. The Indian government, spotting a cause celebre, then made the counter-claim and incorporated the god of the desecrated temple as a plaintiff.

The right of the Indians to introduce the god Shiva as a plaintiff stems from a principle long established in Hindu law, and accepted by the British Privy Council in 1925, that a god idol in a Hindu temple can sue and be sued. This is not thought to have been attempted before in Britain.

It seems all India now has to do is to identify which temple a treasure came from before demanding its rightful return on a god's behalf. In Britain, the claim that it was purchased in good faith does not give the buyer of the stolen property title to it, unlike many European countries.

The British Museum, which was left a large bequest by a Canadian banker in the 1930s

specifically for acquiring Indian and Asian works of art, could be an even bigger casualty of the ruling than the Victoria and Albert Museum with its vast Indian collection. A spokesman for the British Museum said: "We need further time to study the findings of the case in detail and will have to take legal advice."

The London trade is taking some comfort from the fact that the costs incurred may be high enough to discourage India from attempting to retrieve many other such treasures this way. But Anthony Gardner of Spink's, leading dealers in oriental artefacts, said: "Even if the Indian government doesn't proceed with other cases, there may certainly be a psychological effect. Anyone contemplating buying a Shiva Nataraja in future is going to think very carefully about its history, or else risk a writ from Shiva."

Yelena Hanga, a black female Russian journalist recently visited the US, eager to find out what it was like to work for a US newspaper. However the American media, surprised to learn that there were blacks in the Soviet Union, made her a media celebrity instead.

By Linda Feldmann

NEW YORK — She arrived three months ago, a wide-eyed young journalist from Moscow News, eager to find out what it's like to work for an American newspaper.

But it never quite worked out that way. Yelena Hanga got famous instead.

"The pile of articles about me is so thick, I'll have to pay more for overweight luggage when I leave," Ms. Hanga joked in a final interview with her host newspaper, *The Christian Science Monitor*, before her departure for home recently.

She was a natural for the American media — the granddaughter of a black American communist cotton farmer who emigrated to the Soviet Union with his white wife in the 1930s. Most Americans didn't know there are blacks in the Soviet Union, and the media were more than happy to get the word out.

The "Today" show and "Good Morning America" competed for an appearance. "Today" won — it called first. Several major dailies gushed at length about her. *Essence* magazine threw a bash for her in New York. ABC's "20/20" has been filming her in action for the past six weeks and will travel to Moscow this spring for more footage in her native milieu, all for a 15-minute piece. There have even been film offers.

Hanga chuckles about all the attention — most of it, anyway. It was a lesson in how the American media operate, for better or worse. She marvels at their doggedness. "When I said no, they would keep asking over and over again" and fumes over a journalist she says invented a quotation.

"Every person knew what they wanted to see in me, and they looked for it," she says, shifting effortlessly between English and Russian. "In many of these articles, everybody exaggerated about me. For example, they wrote that I am pretty. I have never been pretty — I know that very well! When I arrived, I had such an inferiority complex, there are so many pretty black girls."

Then there were the offers to

give talks, have dinner, attend conferences, or just plain get together, which poured in from around the country. The names of the people she rubbed elbows with read like a guest list from "Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous" — the Jacksons, Michael and Jesse, Arthur Ashe, Michael Dukakis, and Edward Kennedy. Recalling her phone chat with Stevie Wonder, Hanga melts into youthful adoration.

Meeting Michael Jackson also fits in the wait-till-I-tell-the-folks-back-home category. She was on a boat ride at Disneyland, and Mr Jackson happened to be behind her. She didn't recognize him.

But when the crowds started to gather and she saw the bodyguards and big white limousine, she knew who it was. When Jackson heard that a black Soviet journalist wanted to talk to him, he emerged from his limo.

Later that weekend, when she visited a Los Angeles radio station, word got around that she had met Michael Jackson. They put her right on the air. Hanga recounts the interview:

"Tell us all about him — isn't he beautiful?" the deejay asked. "Well, not like in the films..."

Hanga responded, to which the deejay shot a very disapproving glance at her. "Oh, yes, I mean sure, he was beautiful."

Score one for freedom of expression.

"It's very uncomfortable to be a celebrity," Hanga remarked later. "It's clear from their eyes that you're not saying what they want you to say..."

"It puts such a great responsibility on you. And then if you disappoint someone, they will say, 'Oh, those Soviets!'"

Hanga did find some time to get out of the spotlight and ask a few of her own questions.

"I made an investigation about the attitudes of blacks and whites to the Soviet Union," she declares.

"I think that well-to-do blacks are more conservative toward the Soviet Union than well-to-do whites. But among average people, the blacks are more progressive..."

"I talked with young black college students in Los Angeles. Among them, they have much



Yelena Hanga: visiting Soviet newswoman in Boston, USA

more favourable feelings about the Soviet Union than white Americans (do), because the American press feeds people with stereotypes — that's not a secret to anybody. If they use photographs, they show a fat grandmother."

"If you say to a white person, 'Communists are going to take everything from you,' he'll believe it, because that's what he reads. If you say the same thing to a black person, he'll think about whether it's true or not, because so many bad things have been written about blacks."

"Also, black people relate better to the Soviet Union, because they know there is no racism there."

Wait a minute, I interject. No racism in the Soviet Union? With little effort, I recall half a dozen instances of prejudice against blacks (mainly African students) in the Soviet Union that I had seen or heard about. Other Americans who have spent time in the Soviet Union can cite similar examples, I explain.

"That's your opinion," Hanga replies.

We agree to disagree. On more than one occasion, Hanga's combination of Soviet upbringing and natural feistiness shows in encounters with the homeless, a theme the Soviet press likes to focus on.

She describes with gusto her conversation with a young homeless man in New York. "I asked him with a sassy tone of voice, 'Why don't you work?' And he answered, 'Who'd give

me a job when I smell like this? I have nothing nice to wear. So I said to him, 'You could go to a shelter and bathe. I saw it on television.' And he said, 'Do you know that it's dangerous to sleep there? There are diseases...'"

"He didn't seem mentally strange, or drunk. But I didn't stay with him for a week, so I can't really judge."

Throughout our discussion, Hanga insists she's not prepared to draw any conclusions about America. But in animated bursts she has much to say on a lot of issues.

Television, for example: "You have more couch potatoes than we do."

And yuppies: "They're like a caste. I talked to yuppies... but not one of them admits to being a yuppie."

Rap music: "This is a very important phenomenon. As important as yuppies. I plan to tell Soviets about this."

She also says she did come to understand herself better while in the United States. "At home and here, people always tell me I am so full of life, and now I know why," she explains. "It's because I have a black American grandfather. I have the genes. This ability to enjoy life — it's typical for blacks."

That spunk came through in a later phone discussion.

"Essence magazine is going to do my hair, my makeup, my clothes, even my fingernails, and then take my picture! Maybe I can be beautiful after all!" 1988, *The Christian Science Monitor*.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Measures to cut down state expenditures

ANKARA, Turkey, April 23, (AP): The government on Thursday announced measures to cut down public expenditures in an effort to avoid the large budget deficits of past two years.

Mehmet Yazar, Minister of State and government spokesman, said that travel abroad by government officials will be reduced, hiring of new personnel will be restricted, funds will be denied for new furnishings for state departments, and automatic phone calls from government offices will not be allowed except for the highest level department heads.

Government departments will not hold cocktail parties or send flowers and other gifts to private concerns or state officials, Yazar said.

Funds

Requests for additional funds will not be approved and only in most necessary situations will investment budgets be increased, Yazar told reporters.

The austerity measures are part of the package to reduce inflation currently around 65 per cent to a more manageable 40 per cent by the end of the year.

High government spending and the subsequent budget deficit of \$3 billion last year in a total budget of \$12 billion was blamed as a major cause of high inflation.

Egyptian oil minister to attend Opec meeting

CAIRO, April 23, (Opecna): Egyptian Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Abdul Hadi Kandil has announced that he will head his country's delegation to the Opec/non-Opec price talks in Vienna on Tuesday.

The minister stressed that during the meeting, which will be attended by several non-Opec oil producing countries, he would be seeking to attain a "conceptual accord" on production, quotas and official prices.

Support

Egypt, which exports half of its daily production of 870,000 barrels, has pledged firm support for Opec's efforts to stabilise the oil market.

Kandil is scheduled to arrive in London today with members of his delegation to attend a preparatory meeting of experts.

The minister has been discussing oil market issues and ways of securing market equilibrium with Venezuelan Energy and Mines Minister Dr Arturo Hernandez Grisanti, now winding up a three-day visit here.

GCC and Asean to coordinate policies

RIYADH, April 23, (Opecna): The six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) which also groups six countries, have agreed to coordinate their economic and cultural policies.

The agreement was reached at a meeting here on Wednesday of representatives of the two groups who discussed ways of boosting GCC-Asean cooperation in various sectors.

At the meeting, held at the GCC secretariat, the two groups expressed their "strong desire" to expand inter-regional relations, especially in the areas of economy and culture.

GCC, comprising Opec members Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE, together with Bahrain and Oman, was set up in 1981.

Asean, established in 1967, groups Opec's only Asian member Indonesia, together with Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines and Brunei.

Swissair total income up

SWISSAIR increased its system-wide tonne-kilometre capacity by 8 per cent in February compared to the same month in 1987. The extra production was more than absorbed by traffic growth, which was 11 per cent up on the previous year.

Passenger traffic increased by 9 per cent and cargo volume by 15 per cent in overall tonne-kilometre terms. Mail carriages, meanwhile, were down slightly, by 2 per cent.

A total of 570,210 passengers were carried on all sectors of the airline's network, as against 513,668 in the previous year. Seat load factor was unchanged at 56 per cent, while overall load factor rose from 60 to 62 per cent.

Kuwait economy on a steady growth path

THERE is a growing belief that the consolidation process, initiated four years ago with the aim of putting the Kuwaiti economy on a more sustainable growth path, has started to bear fruit, NBK's Kuwait Interim Economic and Financial Report has said.

For the first time since 1982, the non-oil gross domestic product has shown a positive growth in 1986, notwithstanding the collapse in the world oil market. Value-added in the non-oil sectors amounted, then, to KD3156 million, up 6.4 per cent on the previous year.

Overall GDP was, however, down 15.6 per cent to KD4998 million, under the impact of a considerably reduced oil sector contribution.

Conversely, the share of non-oil activities in total GDP showed a substantial increase to 63 per cent in 1986, up from 50 per cent in the previous year.

Among the fast-growing non-oil sectors, manufacturing — including petrochemicals — registered a substantial 47 per cent increase to KD555 million.

Construction, in contrast, continued to reflect subdued activity with the sector's value-added amounting to KD156 million, down from KD198 million in the previous year.

Trade, wholesale and retail, suffered a limited KD30 million drop to KD470 million. Other major sectors witnessed no significant change.

The considerable headway achieved in the implementation of the "difficult credit facilities settlement programme" is gradually restoring confidence to the financial sector.

Initially, the programme — which guarantees the rights of depositors and

the banks' shareholders' equity as of end-December 1985 — has had a slow start.

But gradually, as debtors' sentiment turned more positive, the enforcement of the scheme gathered pace. Data revealed by the Central Bank show that, as at January 7, 1988, banks have "technically" completed settlement agreements for 92 per cent of the total non-performing loans outstanding.

Development

In a separate development, the Kuwait capital market, after a 5-year moratorium, has been reopened for foreign borrowers with the launch of a KD20 million (\$71 million), 7-year public bond issue for the Republic of Finland, the largest ever single public issue launched in the KD bond market. This was soon followed by a KD30 million (\$106 million) 7-year public issue arranged and lead-managed by the National Bank of Kuwait on behalf of the World Bank.

Tangible

Last year saw the first tangible results of the three-year-old effort to rationalise public finance. The closing accounts for 1986/87 show, indeed, that the drop in total revenues to KD1731 million was, to some extent, offset by a substantial 8 per cent drop in actual spending. This leaves a strictly-defined deficit of KD1129 million.

The new budget for 1987/88, announced on June 30, 1987, is a mere confirmation of the government's fiscal orientations set in the previous year. The anticipated gain in revenues (+3.5 per cent) — mainly derived from firmer oil prices — will be used to finance similar increase (+3.4 per cent) in spending.

Development expenditure will benefit from a significantly higher increase of 7.5 per cent, clearly reflecting authorities' concern to support the productive sectors.

Besides, wages and salaries are set to increase by 10 per cent. The resulting budget deficit, scheduled at KD1179 million, will probably turn out to be much smaller than projected.

It is of significance to note that the Kuwait state reserves, estimated at KD25 million by mid-1986, continue to provide a comfortable cushion to the country's public finance.

About KD14.3 billion are held in the reserve fund for future generations and the remaining KD10.7 billion are held in the state general reserve.

In a move aimed at providing partial funding to the budget deficit as much as introducing more flexibility in the money market and financial system, the Council of Ministers approved, last September, legislation enabling the government to launch a public debt programme to the tune of KD1400 million. The new instruments will be issued to the bearer and may be purchased by Kuwaiti as well as non-Kuwaiti individuals and institutions.

Underwriting will, however, be restricted to banks and financial institutions subject to Central Bank supervision. The debt instruments will range from short-term 91-day treasury bills up to 10-year treasury bonds.

As from November 21, the Central Bank started to invite tenders for the debt issues. This proved to be a great success, with the third issue (the last in 1987) attracting bids for KD722 million, 4.8

times the total on offer.

While yields on treasury bills will be determined by competitive bidding, the bonds will have fixed coupons payable semi-annually.

For the first three issues, coupons have ranged between 5-7/8 per cent for 1-year bonds and 7 per cent for 5 and 7-year bonds.

Breaking with a two-year-old bearish undertone, the KD staged a marked recovery, not only against the weakening dollar but also vis-a-vis other major currencies.

In May, a downward adjustment brought the KD off a 7-year record high of 268.86 fils, but left it at levels significantly firmer than in the previous year.

Decline

The sharp decline of the dollar, in the wake of the sharp fall in the international stock markets, gave a strong boost to the dinar against the dollar but resulted in a relatively modest slide vis-a-vis other currencies.

Finally, as regards interest rates, monetary authorities were keen on installing a more flexible and market-oriented system.

In March 1987, the Central Bank announced the overhaul of the 10-year-old leading interest rate structure.

In the meantime, it was endeavouring to guide money market rates downwards.

The latest such move, enacted in November, was the 1/2 per cent cut in the discount rate to 5 per cent. For the foreseeable future, the market expects KD rates to steady around their present low levels.

Economy continues to grow

UK bank lending on the rise

LONDON, April 23, (UPI): Bank lending in Britain increased by £4.7 billion (\$8.836 billion) last month, a rise far greater than analysts expected.

The increase could mean trouble for the government because as the economy continues to grow at breakneck pace another cut in borrowing costs cannot be risked.

Interest rates looked like holding at their current high levels as the week closed so overseas buyers will snap up the pound.

And this will push its value up against other currencies, making British goods too expensive abroad.

Money was still pouring into Britain's Building Societies last month, figures from the Building Societies Association (BSA) showed this week.

And home loaners were breaking all records, which will bring the government no comfort in its battle to control inflation and still hold down the value of the pound.

Investors stashed away a net £1.059 billion (\$1.99902 billion) in March — the fourth month out of the past five they have passed the £1 billion (\$1.88 billion) mark, the BSA said.

Mortgage lending also soared to a record with gross advances above £4 billion (\$7.52 billion) for the first and set to rise further.

Coming behind the bank lending figures for March, the BSA figures provide a worrying pointer to future inflationary pressures, analysts said.

"Over the last six months Societies' net receipts have averaged just over £1 billion (\$1.88 billion) — double the figure for the previous six months," said Mark Boleati, director general of BSA.

"The previous best six-monthly period was September 1983 to February 1984 when net receipts averaged around £900 million (\$1.692 billion) per month," he said.

More importantly, there is no sign of an end to these very high

inflows. It's mainly to do with the "flight to safety" to private investors' cash which mirrors news that institutional funds rushed out of foreign markets and back to Britain in the fourth quarter of 1987 with a sizeable element going into cash.

Decision

Luxury car group Jaguar should be able to produce more than 60,000 units next year, according to latest figures unveiled by chairman Sir John Egan this week.

Speaking at the company showed off its new 150 MPH XJS convertible which goes on sale next week, Sir John said Jaguar was aiming for a 50 per cent productivity improvement over the next two years.

"We want to be able to produce six cars per employee by the end of 1989," he said.

Sir John was speaking following the decision by the Jaguar workforce to accept a new productivity deal.

Last year, Jaguar produced

about 47,000 vehicles and plans to turn out around 55,000 this year.

Asked if the unions in the car industry were now flexing their muscles as companies made bigger profits, Sir John said "I don't think so, although, as a management you are more vulnerable when making profits."

Sotheby's art auctioneers bought by US multi-millionaire Alfred Taubman and a group of wealthy art lovers in 1983, is coming back to the stock market next month with a price tag expected to be between £240 million (\$451.2 million) and £280 million (\$526.4 million).

Taubman and the other shareholders, who bought Sotheby's for £87 million (\$163.56 million), are each selling 22 per cent of their shares — but keeping 97.3 per cent of the votes.

The share will be offered to investors in the US and Britain, and will be a shares, carrying one vote each.

These shares which will have listings in both London and New

York were expected to be priced at between £35 (\$65.8) and £39.80 (\$74.24) each.

Profits of Laura Ashley showed the Flowerly Frocks and Fabrics Group has been feeling the pinch because of the dollar's slide.

The Welsh fashion and home furnishings company earns a big slice of its profits in North America — nearly £75 million (\$141 million) last year according to the new figures.

Impact

Chairman Sir Bernard Ashley put the blame for dented annual earnings fairly squarely on the "negative impact" of exchange rates.

After taking account of the ailing dollar and sharply higher interest costs, pre-tax profit was just £628,000 (\$1.18064 million) after around £23.1 million (\$43.428 million).

Sales were some £30 million (\$56.4 million) higher to 201.5 million (\$378.82 million) for the 12 months' trading to the end of January.

New Iraqi development plan to increase economic growth

BAGHDAD, April 23, (Opecna): Iraq has earmarked \$11.50 billion for its 1988 investment plan, 42 per cent of it going to industry and agriculture.

The 1988-90 plan envisages an increase in economic growth and expansion of industrial and agricultural productivity, according to Planning Minister Dr Samal Majed Faraj.

This would be coupled with an increase in the exploitation of current productivity levels and improvement in the quality and quantity of commodities and services, the minister added.

In a statement, Faraj said special importance was being given to expanding exports and establishing a sound economy.

The plan, he noted, would also take other public services into account which would contribute to increasing the birth rate, raising living standards and improving health services.

Dow Jones moves up

Much commotion, little progress for stocks

NEW YORK, April 23, (AP): The story of the stock market's behaviour during the past couple of months has been a whole lot of motion and very little progress.

Wide swings stretching over a few days or even a few hours have been commonplace. Yet a glance back to mid-February shows most of the popular market indicators barely changed from where they stood then. As they survey this situation, many observers see the market caught in a classic dilemma.

Short-term volatility in stock prices in the aftermath of last year's crash, they agree, has frightened away many individual investors and money managers at investing institutions.

Short-term volatility in stock prices in the aftermath of last year's crash, they agree, has frightened away many individual investors and money managers at investing institutions.

But the presence of those some investors may be required if volatility is going to be reduced.

In the meantime, many Wall Streeters lament a market climate that seems given over

almost entirely to players with a gimmick — a takeover rumour, a matched set of buy and sell orders keyed to an impending dividend payment, or a computer programme "index arbitrage" transaction.

The outcry over programme trading was raised again on Thursday when the market rose sharply in early trading, took an abrupt drop at mid-afternoon and then bounced back again at the close to finish little changed.

There seemed to be no fundamental reasons for all these sudden swings, other than fluctuations in stock index futures that kept changing the equations on which programme trading is based.

The situation has been described as "the tail wagging the dog." But William King, head equity trader at Nikko Securities International says that description doesn't go far enough.

"It has the dog by the tail and is whipping it around in the air," he says.

Defenders of programme trading contend that, by serving an arbitrage function of keeping prices in line between the futures and "cash" markets, the practice actually serves as a stabilising influence over time.

But King says that argument glosses over "the dirty little secret of programme trading."

"Derivative-product traders need volatility to prosper. If they don't have it, they try to manufacture it," he said.

"They move into positions, and when the conditions are right they try to 'influence' prices."

"Instead of providing liquidity, they aggravate the movement in the direction of the trend."

At the close yesterday, the Dow Jones average of 30 industrials stood at 2,015.09, up 1.16

from the week before.

The New York Stock Exchange composite index rose 0.03 to 147.03; the Nasdaq composite index for the over-the-counter market gained 0.14 to 374.04; and the American Stock Exchange market value index slipped 1.21 to 298.03.

Volume on the Big Board averaged 155.02 million shares a day, against 183.57 million the week before.

The short-term trading mentality prevailing the Street these days also came under attack on April 14, when disappointing news on the trade deficit touched off a 101.46-point drop in the Dow Jones industrial average.

What sense could it make, many people asked, to chop \$100 billion off the value of stocks on the basis of a single statistic for just one month, which may or may not be reliable and could well be substantially revised in the next monthly report?

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The plan, he noted, would also take other public services into account which would contribute to increasing the birth rate, raising living standards and improving health services.

Congress and White House bracing for a battle

Trade bill would toughen US treatment of imports

WASHINGTON, April 23, (AP): After three years of work on a new US trade bill, Congress and the White House are bracing for a battle that could end by tearing the bill apart.

If Congress approves the bill this week, as expected, President Ronald Reagan says he will veto it. If Congress challenges the veto, the ensuing struggle would result in dismembering the bill into several smaller ones, each likely to be the source of further debate.

The House of Representatives passed it on Thursday by a vote of 312 to 107, setting the stage for a Senate vote.

Only a simple majority in the Senate is necessary to give it congressional approval, but if Reagan vetoes it, the House and

Senate will each have to back it by a two-thirds majority to pass it over his head.

The bill is expected to pass by a wide majority in the Senate, but a significant number might change their minds, rather than oppose the president, if Congress tries to override the veto.

The provisions of the 1,000-page bill would make it substantially harder to import goods into the United States if Washington decides they are being traded unfairly, either because the exporter's government has subsidised them or because of some other practice condemned here.

Some foreign officials see the bill as too arbitrary.

"It toughens US trading laws by making it easier for the United

States to retaliate unilaterally against actions that it alone considers unfair," said Sir Roy Denman, Washington representative for the 12 countries of the European Economic Community.

Many of the bill's features have been criticised in the United States and abroad as over-protective of American industry against competition from abroad.

The main White House objection, however, is to a portion of the bill that affects domestic economic policy. Congressmen have attached to the bill a requirement that a US employer of 100 or more workers must let them know 60 days in advance if the plant where they work is to be closed.

It is a common practice in Congress to attach provisions to a bill that have little to do with the main subject. In the case of the factory-closing provision, American employers, supported by the Reagan administration, have been strongly advocating the right to run their businesses as they see fit.

By the standards of some nations, however, the measure on factory closings is a mild measure.

Sanctions

"Most countries have much stricter laws than that," said Achim A. Stoehr, the director for West Germany of Arthur D. Little International, a major management and consultancy firm.

"In Germany we have co-

labour some actual power over plant closings."

The Reagan administration also objects to other features of the trade bill. Among those it dislikes most are strong sanctions against the Toshiba Corporation of Japan and Kongsberg Vaapenfabrik of Norway, stemming from the sale to the Soviet Union of machinery that US officials say will help make Soviet submarines harder to track.

Under the bill's provisions, the two companies would be barred from making some sales to the US government for three years.

The company subsidiaries that made the actual sale to the Soviets would be barred from almost all exports to this country for the same period.

World Business Summary

Mexico sells copper mine for \$910 million

MEXICO CITY, April 23, (AP): The government announced the sale of one of the largest copper mines in Mexico to a private company for \$910 million in what was described as a new formula for reducing the foreign debt. The mining company of Cananea Mine is in the northwestern state of Sonora, 54 miles (84 kms) southwest of the Arizona border.

Ernesto Marcos Giacomini, director of the Nacional Financiera Development Bank, said the purchaser was the Protexa Group from the northern industrial city of Monterrey. He said at a news conference on Thursday that the payment would be made in "titles representative of the Mexican public foreign debt." But he said, "it is not strictly a swap" but rather a "direct cancellation" of \$910 million of foreign debt.

The business daily El Financiero said he refused to disclose the percentage of discount and other details of the arrangement. Mexico suspended its debt swap programme after approving arrangements for about \$2 billion, saying it was having too much inflationary impact.

The total Mexican foreign debt is about \$105 billion, the second largest in the developing world after Brazil's. Giacomini said that a consortium of private banks led by First Chicago and including other foreign creditors of Mexico, would support Protexa, an industrial conglomerate. He said the transfer "will be formalised within 40 days." The mining company is the third largest in Mexico.

The development agency, known as Nafinsa, holds 90 per cent of the company's shares. Trading in the company's shares was suspended on the Mexican Stock Exchange while the sale proceeds.

The mine has an annual capacity of 160,000 tons of copper.

Indonesia received \$4.34b in ADB loans

JAKARTA, April 23, (Opecna): By the end of 1987 Indonesia had benefited from more than \$4.34 billion in financial assistance from the Manila-based Asian Development Bank (ADB), according to a bank report. The assistance, comprising 125 financial packages, was used to help the financing of 117 development projects in various parts of the country. The report said 100 packages worth more than \$4.05 billion originated from ADB's ordinary capital resources, while the remainder came from the Asian Development Fund. ADB also provided \$26.80 million in technical assistance to 127 projects in the country.

According to the report, ADB assistance was extended under a policy adapted to Indonesia's development plans, which since 1987 have concentrated on stepping up non-oil exports and maintaining a favourable balance of payments. In 1987, road construction and industrial programmes in Indonesia received 21 per cent of all ADB assistance. The irrigation sector also received 21 per cent, followed by power plant construction (17 per cent) and banking development programmes (10 per cent). Since it began extending assistance to Indonesia in 1979, the bulk of ADB funds has gone to agriculture (37 per cent), followed by the social sector (19 per cent), communications and transportation (18 per cent) and energy (17 per cent).

Japan's oil imports register small rise

TOKYO, April 23, (Opecna): Japan's oil imports reached 17 million kiloliters (kl) last month, up 0.6 per cent over February, according to the Ministry of International Trade and Industry. Of the total, 11 million kl came from the Middle East, up 1.7 per cent over the previous month, with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) maintaining its position as the main supplier. UAE (2.30 million kl) was followed by Indonesia and Oman with two million kl each. Saudi Arabia supplied 1.90 million kl, down 21.70 per cent from February, while Kuwait accounted for 1.20 million kl, a steep increase of nearly 182 per cent. China supplied 1.20 million kl, down 24.2 per cent, followed by Iraq at 1.10 million, a decrease of 22.5 per cent and Iran 0.90 million kl, up 3.2 per cent.

The ministry's monthly report indicated that Japan's crude oil imports totalled 187.90 million kl in fiscal 1987, which ended on March 31, an increase of 0.2 per cent over 1986. Japan, it noted, imported 73.8 per cent of its crude oil from Opec member countries in March, an increase of 1.3 per cent over last year, while imports from the Gulf region accounted for 55.6 per cent against 55.7 over the same period last year.

Trade between Latin America and Soviet Union rises

HAVANA, April 23, (Xinhua): The volume of trade between Latin America and the Soviet Union increased to more than 7.3 billion rubles (about \$12.3 billion) in 1987, a growth of more than 150 million rubles (about \$254.2 million) over 1986, it was announced here today. Trade volume between the Soviet Union and Cuba reached 6.3 billion rubles (about \$10.7 billion) in 1987, while Soviet trade with Argentina over the same period reached nearly 405 million rubles (about \$686.4 million). Brazil was the Soviet Union's third largest Latin American trading partner last year with trade valued at more than 232 million rubles (about \$393.2 million). Soviet trade with Uruguay, Peru, Colombia, Panama, Ecuador, Mexico, Venezuela, and Nicaragua also increased last year.

Alshall stock price indices

Share prices turn mixed

ALSHALL Index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded on Wednesday an average of 36.34 points showing no change from last week's average. Alshall Index for Gulf shareholding companies reached 47.42 points with an increase of 0.11 points for the same period.

The trading volume for Kuwaiti shares reached 9.39 million shares at a daily average of 1.88 million shares with a decrease of 20.7 per cent from the previous week daily average of 2.37 million shares. Gulf traded shares reached 13.74 million shares at a daily average of 2.75 million shares with an increase of 1.85 per cent over last week's average of 2.70 million shares. The value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD2.356 million at a daily average of KD0.471 million, a decrease of 45 per cent from last week's daily average of KD0.856 million.

The value of Gulf traded shares was KD0.439 million at a daily average of KD0.088 million an increase of 7 per cent over last week's daily average of KD0.082 million.

The market performance was mixed. The decrease in trading volume and value for Kuwaiti shares was partially compensated by Gulf shares in price, volume and value which resulted in increasing the margin between the two price indices in favour of Gulf shares.

For Kuwaiti shares, the banking sector continued its lead at 48.4 per cent of total trading of which the Gulf Bank has 30 per cent, followed by Kuwait National Bank 21 per cent and the Commercial Bank 14 per cent.

The services sector came second at 27.8 per cent of which Kuwaiti commercial markets had 89 per cent, followed by Mobile Telephone Systems 6 per cent and Kuwait Computer Company 5 per cent.

The Real Estate Sector came third at 14.9 per cent of total trading which was limited to two companies: United Realty at 94 per cent and Kuwait Projects 6 per cent. For Gulf shares, Ras Al Khaima White Cement had the lead at 65 per cent of the total Gulf shares market, followed by Fujairah Cement at 13 per cent and Bahrain International Bank at 10 per cent.

Trading used to be active during the month of Ramadan however, this has not been the case for this year. This can be partially related to the hijacking of Kuwaiti plane and partially to the recent battles in the Iraqi-Iran war.

As a result of the favourable ending of the above two factors, the market is expected to pick up during the rest of Ramadan, otherwise, the only explanation of the weakness of the market would be the continuity of the market retreat which has started since the end of last year.

Kuwait shareholding companies index

	Wednesday 20/04/88	Wednesday 13/04/88	Change points
Banking Sector			
Kuwait National Bank	87.25	88.27	-1.01
The Gulf Bank	27.25	27.25	—
The Commercial Bank	20.90	20.90	—
Al Ahli Bank	26.43	25.95	0.48
Bank of Kuwait & M. East	26.31	25.87	0.44
Kuwait R. Estate Bank	29.37	30.16	-0.79
Burgan Bank	23.39	23.39	—
Kuwait Finance House	61.98	61.23	0.76
Sector Index	38.37	38.48	-0.11
Investment Sector			

Kuwait Investment Co.	30.85	28.70	2.15
Kuwait Int. Invest. Co.	26.12	26.12	—
Inv. Pearl Kuwait	82.54	80.95	1.59
IFA	75.00	72.06	2.94
Commercial Facilities	95.00	95.00	—
Sector Index	38.74	37.40	1.34
Insurance Sector			
Kuwait Insurance Co.	37.51	37.51	—
Gulf Insurance Co.	28.46	28.46	—
Al Ahleia Insurance Co.	45.09	45.09	—
Warba Insurance Co.	71.31	71.31	—
Sector Index	38.19	38.19	—
Real Estate Sector			
Kuwait Real Estate	30.59	30.59	—
United Realty	13.18	12.96	0.22
National Real Estate	45.39	45.39	—
Sector Index	22.99	22.86	0.13
Industrial Sector			
Kuwait Cement Co.	16.22	16.22	—
Refrigeration Indust.	80.51	80.51	—
Gulf Cables	99.76	99.76	—
Kuwait Pharmaceutical	47.11	48.89	-1.78
Sector Index	31.17	31.28	-0.08
Services Sector			
Kuwait Computer Co.	205.20	207.36	-2.16
Kuwait Cinema Co.	9.04	9.04	—
Public Warehousing Co.	68.69	68.69	—
Kuwait Comm. Markets Co.	40.95	40.95	—
Mobile Telephone Syst.	338.10	342.86	-4.76
Sector Index	61.82	62.35	-0.53
Food Sector			
Livestock Trad. & Transp.	46.79	48.82	-2.03
United Fisheries	10.34	10.34	—
Kuwait United Poultry	87.28	87.28	—
Kuwait Food Co.	65.52	65.52	—
Sector Index	41.86	42.62	-0.76
Overall Index	38.34	38.33	0.01

Gulf shareholding companies index

	Wednesday 20/04/88	Wednesday 13/04/88	Change points
Financial Companies			
First Gulf Bank	163.16	163.16	—
United Gulf Bank	34.48	34.48	—
Bahrain Internat. Bank	92.41	92.41	—
Bahrain M. East Bank	85.42	85.42	—
Gulf Investments Co.	61.03	61.03	—
Coast Inv. & Dev. Co.	75.24	76.19	-0.95
Bahrain Kuwait Inv. Gro.	65.71	65.71	—
Arabian Gen. Inv. (Shuaa)	59.85	59.85	—
Sector Index	62.82	62.72	-0.10
Other Companies			
Gulf Cement (fully paid)	12.83	12.83	—
Sharjah Cement	10.50	10.50	—
Fujairah Cement	10.53	9.87	0.66
Ras Al Khaima W. Cement	26.11	24.44	1.67
Gulf Medical Projects	18.21	18.21	—
Sector Index	15.56	15.01	0.55
Overall Index	47.42	47.31	0.11

Base Period 31/12/1983.

How to choose the financial adviser

By Midas

A FEW weeks ago I wrote about how to choose an honest broker and I explained that with the new legislation in the UK all financial advisers have to belong to a professional body, called FIMBRA. I said that provided you deal with a member of this organisation you will be largely protected against fraud and even, to some extent, against downright bad advice.

Opinion

However, there is another point which needs to be made about financial advisers, and that is really about their own philosophy. As anyone who has been following this column will have realised by now, the world's financial markets are going through a very uncertain phase.

The truth is that nobody knows whether the bull market is finally over or not, perhaps gold is about to make a comeback, maybe interest rates are going to collapse, or shoot through the

roof? The answers to all these questions are just a matter of opinion.

Therefore, when choosing an adviser, the best thing to do is to read enough about the situation, in general to form an opinion of your own. Then, try to find an adviser who either shares your opinion, or who is able, through his, or her, superior knowledge, to persuade you that their opinion is more likely to be the right one.

Tina Bailey, of Felinraig Ltd, is one adviser who has lots of satisfied clients in Kuwait. After all, she lived here for seven years or so before returning to the UK last year.

Action

This week she is making one of her regular trips to the Gulf to see old clients and meet new ones. She is staying at the Holiday Inn and will be happy to meet anyone who needs professional advice.

I have dealt with Tina for many years and have always

found her to be prepared to justify and explain any action that she recommends.

The adviser to avoid is the one who tells you what to do without explaining all of the drawbacks, the whys and wherefores of any particular course of action. But you must be prepared to make it a long term relationship. It's no good expecting wonderful results in less than a year, you might be lucky, but real performance is best judged over five or ten years, or even longer.

Take school or college fees, for example. Many people want to save their money so that when their children's education starts to get expensive, they have the resources to do what's best for them.

Naturally, such things take long term planning. It's no good trying to do it all the year before the child goes off to boarding school.

A good financial adviser will be able to present you with a whole range of options and plans

all of which share one common feature; the earlier you start the better.

Someone recently calculated that it costs over 120,000 dinars to rear and educate a child these days, which is an awesome thought.

Taking out a special educational savings plan can help to make the operation as painless as possible.

Part of the problem is that school and college fees are rising all the time. If you have a five-year-old, it's no good thinking how much his college education, will cost at today's prices. You have to consider what the fees will be in thirteen years time. In such circumstances, inflation can be a really terrifying phenomenon.

A good adviser can help you to plan for these, and other expenses, firstly by explaining how much you will eventually need, then by finding the best way to finance your obligations.

Gear box technology will cut costs, says Bonn expert

WE are all aware of how personal computers have revolutionised data processing. Now something similar is going to happen in the placid Gear Box manufacturing field. They are called "Braun Cycloid Gears" and are superior to all existing gear boxes and reduces the weight and volume by more than 50 per cent. Incredibly this has created a golden opportunity for expats in Kuwait for investment.

Expats from Asia, Africa and Australia can now invest in the equity of a marketing company in Luxembourg and in turn get the bonus of marketing rights for licensing this new gear box to produce in their home country.

Gear boxes are fundamental and indispensable units in machines of all sizes whether it is planes, ships, lathes or production machinery. The production of gear boxes, principally as an industrial product, is of huge value and in Germany alone it is Dm 4 billion in machinery building (i.e. approx. KD 660 million), with the total world market being eight times as large.

Research Using the latest CAD-CAM technology and electronically controlled lathes, Dr Braun has perfected a gear box after 10 years of research which was originally invented by his father. The result is a new set of gear box patents that reduce the weight and volume of large gear boxes such as the one in helicopters by as much as 80 per cent. This saving is approximately 50 per cent in cases of smaller size gear boxes such as in cars.

An enterprising German company has bought these patents and is now promoting a holding

Co. called "M/s. Wakonda S.A." based in Luxembourg to market the licence for these patents first in Germany and later in Europe, Japan and USA. Myself and the chairman and managing director of the company Hans Christian Heydecke met recently in the Meridian hotel and discussed the object of Heydecke's present visit arranging private placement of Dm 17 million equity shares (approx. \$10 million) to launch the marketing of these patents. In this connection Heydecke is planning to meet some financial institutions in Kuwait.

During Heydecke's last visit he was approached by some expatriates for marketing rights back home. To accommodate such requests, his company has now formulated a new proposal and the details are given as follows:

Operations

The subscribers for a minimum of 199 shares of Dm 1000 each, will be offered marketing rights for different regions in Asia, Africa and Australia as per company's special proposal for encouraging shareholder involvement in marketing of the product outside Europe, Japan and USA. This offer is on first come first served basis. The full details will be provided in an expat investors meeting at Kuwait Plaza Hotel on April 27, Wednesday, 8pm.

Licence for a new gear box resulting in substantial cost saving for manufacturers using the new technology.

The company is located in Luxembourg (for tax reasons — no income tax). However the marketing operations will be

carried out from Germany. The holding company will also invest in selected purchase of some reputed companies in gear box manufacture to create a special position for itself in the market.

Within 3 years after launch the newly invented gear boxes will capture a minimum of 2.5 per cent of German market. Assuming a 6 per cent licence fee, the total income during that period is expected to be approximately Dm 80 million (approx. KD 13 million) over these 3 years. This is without considering the other countries markets or other segments of market for power and automotive sector.

The new market has overwhelming advantages in many sectors of machine construction and power generation. For example in aircraft construction, a reduction of 1 kg in body weight results in saving of \$5000 over a year. Considering that an aircraft such as Airbus uses 42 mechanical gears to move its flaps their choice for such new gear box, saving over 75 per cent of weight, is obvious.

The project is inherently profitable. The product has an overwhelming economic advantage. It has applications in existing situation by present manufacturers. There are no capital investments for manufacturers adopting this technology. Based on very conservative estimates the payback period is 3 years; after which the profitability shoots up as market share increases.

It has to be noted that only 25 to 30 per cent of total shares are offered to expats and the balance has been reserved for financial institutions in Kuwait.

US may seek more bilateral free trade pacts

OTTAWA, April 23, (Reuter): The Reagan administration may seek more bilateral free trade accords modelled on the US-Canada pact if efforts to liberalise international trade fail, US Treasury Secretary James Baker said on Thursday.

Baker told a Canadian business group the United States might form a "market liberalisation club" if talks aimed at opening up commercial flows failed in the latest talks under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

"If possible we hope... liberalisation will occur in the Uruguay round," Baker told the luncheon.

"If not, we might be willing to explore a 'market liberalisation club' approach, through multilateral arrangements or a series of bilateral agreements."

He continued: "While we associate a liberal trading system with multilateralism, bilateral or multilateral regimes may also help move the world toward a more open system."

He held up the US-Canada accord as a model for other countries to imitate, saying it could be a catalyst for a new trade policy strategy, adding he was encouraged by the number of inquiries from other countries about similar accords.

Canada and the US signed the comprehensive trade accord earlier this year that eliminates most tariff and non-tariff barriers over a 10-year period.

The free trade deal, however, must still be approved by the US Congress and Canadian parliament before it goes into effect January 1, 1989.

US business leaders reject South Africa divestment

EVANSTON, Ill., April 23, (Reuter): An overwhelming majority of the heads of some of the biggest companies in the United States opposes divesting US business interests in South Africa, according to a survey released yesterday.

The chief executive officers of 120 companies with annual sales exceeding \$1 billion opposed divestment by 86 per cent to 14 per cent.

In the survey, conducted by the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University, half of those opposed to divestiture said it would create unemployment for blacks in South Africa.

Another 31 per cent said they regarded apartheid — the target of such divestiture moves — as an "internal political issue."

The survey also found three-quarters of the corporate chiefs favouring non-defence budget cuts as the best way to reduce the federal budget deficit. Another 60 per cent also urged cuts in defence spending.

Only 18 per cent said they favoured a higher personal income tax, 48 per cent backed a value added tax and 31 per cent endorsed an oil import tax.

Boesky asks for reduction in 3-year prison term

NEW YORK, April 23, (Reuter): Ivan Boesky, the stock speculator at the centre of Wall Street's biggest insider trading scheme, asked a federal judge yesterday to reduce his three-year prison term.

In a court filing, Boesky told the federal judge who sentenced him that the "extraordinary extent" of his cooperation with government investigators will almost certainly result in additional criminal and civil charges against others.

Boesky, 51, was sentenced on December 18 on one criminal conspiracy charge. He had pleaded guilty in April 1987. He began serving the term on March 24 in a so-called "Country Club" prison in Lompoc, California, and is eligible for parole at the end of one year.

Boesky's illegal activities were made public on November 14, 1986 when he agreed to pay \$100 million to settle civil insider trading charges brought by the securities and exchange commission.

At that time he also agreed to plead guilty to one criminal count. Boesky won leniency from the government by cooperating in its continuing probe of insider trading.

New plan to take TWA private

NEW YORK, April 23, (AP): Financier Carl C. Icahn yesterday resurrected his proposal to take Trans World Airlines Inc. private, offering to buy all shares in the company that he does not already own.

Icahn, chairman of TWA, dropped a similar proposal after last October's stock market crash.

Under the new plan, the company would merge with a new entity controlled by Icahn, who already owns 77 per cent of TWA's 30 million outstanding shares.

Upon the merger, public shareholders other than Icahn would receive for each share a combination of \$20 in cash and \$29 in face amount of notes paying 12 per cent interest due to 2008.

Tender No. 9/3847
Tender's internal No. 846/88
Concerned party: Kuwait National Petroleum Co. (Shuaiba Refinery Section)
Requirements: Supply of flined pipes
Relevant fee: KD 20/-
Initial guarantee: 2-1/2% of offers value
Closing date: 12 noon Tuesday 31.5.88

Tender No. MEW/22/175/87/88
Tender's internal No. 829/88
Concerned party: Ministry of Electricity & Water
Requirements: Supply & installation of air-conditioning unit for Transformers room in temporary building of Ministries Council
Relevant fee: KD 20/-
Initial guarantee: 2-1/2% of offers value
Closing date: 12 noon Tuesday 10.5.88

Tender is open for contractors classified in 2nd category of air-conditioning works

Tender No. 847/88
Tender's internal No. 847/88
Concerned party: Kuwait Oil Company
Requirements: Supply of gas purifying machine & valves
Relevant fee: KD 20/-
Initial guarantee: 2% of offers value
Closing date: 12 noon Tuesday 31.5.88

Tender No. MEW/22/175/87/88
Tender's internal No. 848/88
Concerned party: Ministry of Electricity & Water
Requirements: Replacement of lift No. 1 for boilers in Shuaiba Power Station
Relevant fee: KD 20/-
Initial guarantee: 2% of offers value
Closing date: 12 noon Tuesday 29.5.88

A pre-tender meeting shall be held on Monday 9.5.88 at 10.00 a.m. in Shuaiba Power Station to visit the site and discuss the tender conditions.

Tender No. FT/959
Tender's internal No. 791/88
Concerned party: Kuwait National Petroleum Co. (Mina Abdulla Refinery)
Requirements: Postal & Administrative services contract in Mina Abdulla Refinery
Relevant fee: KD 30/-
Initial guarantee: 5% of offers value
Closing date: 12 noon Tuesday 14.6.88

A pre-tender meeting shall be held on Monday 23.5.88 at 9.00 a.m. in the Meetings Hall — Mina Abdulla Refinery to visit the site and discuss the tender conditions.

N.B.: The company representative shall not be allowed to attend the preliminary pre-tender meeting if the bidder fails to notify Kuwait National Petroleum Co. with the names and designations of his nominees according to the safety and

KUWAIT						
BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
-NATIONAL BANK	0.860	0.860	0.860	0.860	172000	
-GULF BANK	0.325	0.325	0.325	0.325	220000	
-COMMERCIAL BK	0.240	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-AHLI BANK	0.275	0.275	0.275	0.275	10000	
-B.K.M.E	0.300	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-K.R.E.B.	0.370	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-BURGAN BANK	0.236	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-K.F.HOUSE	0.410	0.405	0.405	0.405	90000	
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
-KUT INV. CO.	0.168	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-K.I.I.C.	0.152	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-CON.FACILITIES	0.380	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-AHLIAN INV.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-I.F.A.	0.102	0.100	0.100	0.100	280000	
-INV. PEARL KUT	0.104	-----	-----	-----	-----	
INSURANCE SECTOR						
-KUT INSURANCE	0.690	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-GULF INSURANCE	0.370	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-AHLIA INS. CO.	0.510	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-WARBA INS. CO.	0.415	-----	-----	-----	-----	
REAL EST SECTOR						
-KUT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.240	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-UNIT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.118	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-NAT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.224	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-SALAHIA R.E.	0.075	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-KUT PROJECTS	0.086	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-KUT R.E.I.COM	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
-NAT IND. CO.	0.510	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-KUT M.P. IND.	0.270	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-KUT CEMENT CO.	0.238	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-REF. IND. CO.	0.385	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-N.A.M.T.CO.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-GULF CABLE	0.970	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-K.PH.IND. CO.	0.106	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-CONT.MARINE	0.350	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-K.SH.REP.CO	0.042	-----	-----	-----	-----	
SERVICES SECTOR						
-OVERLAND TRANS	0.081	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-K.N.C.C. CO.	0.190	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-KUT HOTELS CO.	0.174	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-P.WAREHOUSING	0.136	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-COM.MKT.CMPX.	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.020	560000	
-MOBILE TELE.	0.355	0.355	0.355	0.355	110000	
-KUT COMPUTER	0.190	-----	-----	-----	-----	
FOOD SECTOR						
-LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.230	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-UNITD FISHERIES	0.146	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-UNITD POULTRY	0.238	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-KUT FOODS	0.285	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-AGRI.FOOD PRD.	0.150	-----	-----	-----	-----	
NON-KUT SECTOR						
-BINH.INTER.BK	0.067	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-BINH.M.EAST.BK	0.045	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-UNITD.GULF BK	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-COAST INVEST.	0.079	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-A.G.INV.CORP	0.039	0.039	0.039	0.039	80000	
-FIRST.GULF BK	0.620	-----	-----	-----	-----	
-B.K.I.G.	0.085	-----	-----	-----	-----	

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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SALMIYA, Baghdad Street. One room with water, electricity, kitchen and tele. facilities for a couple or a small family. Tel. Monty, 4848190, 4848120 ext 2258, 9 am - 3 pm, 5.30 pm - 8 pm.

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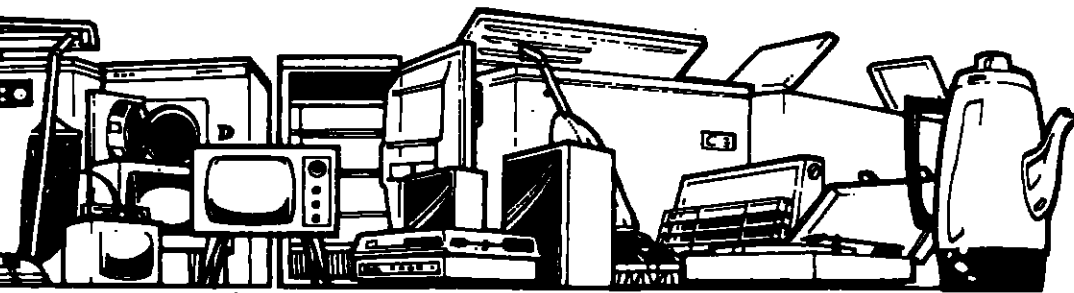
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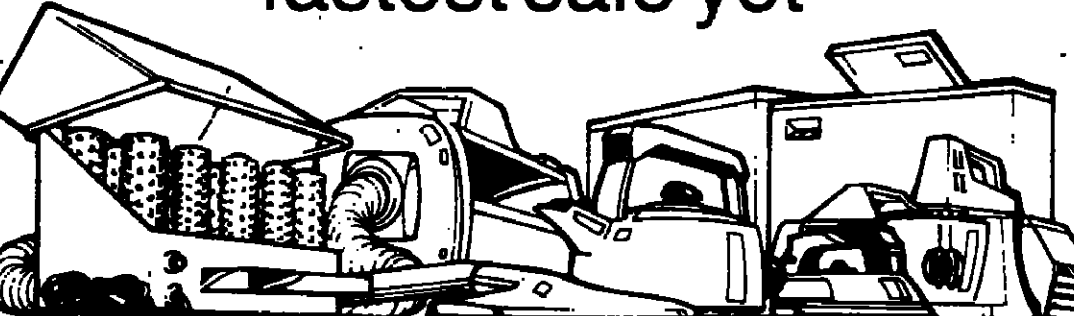
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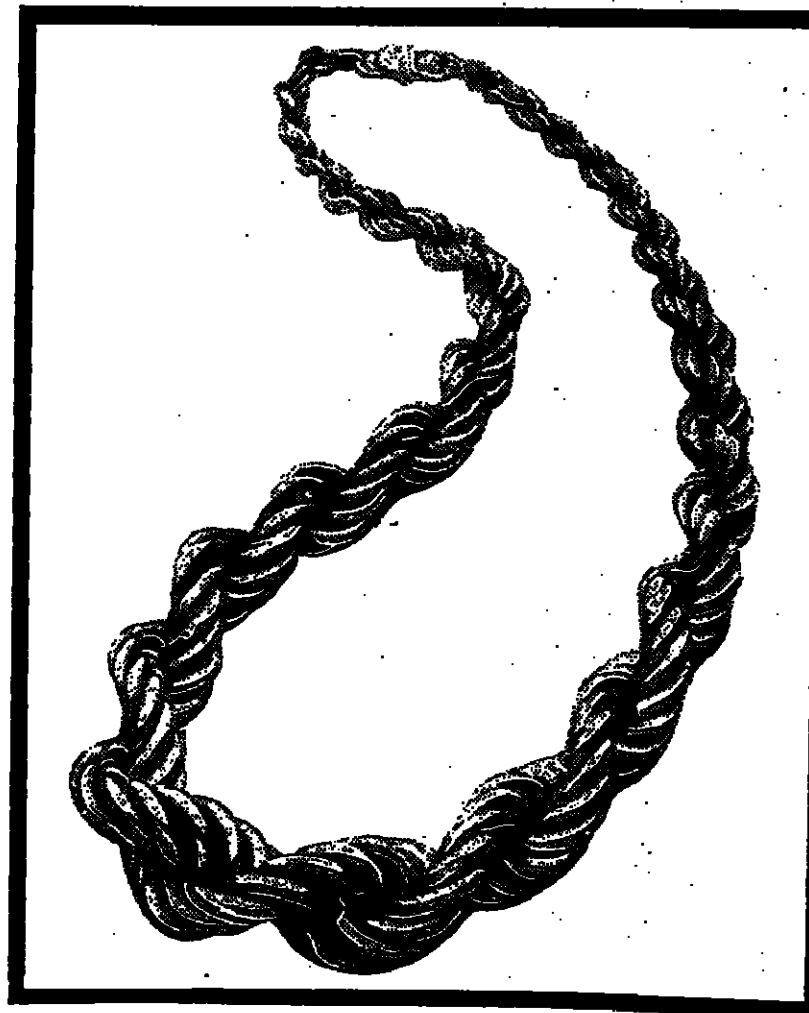
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LENDL MOVES INTO MONTE CARLO SEMIFINALS

Noah escapes defeat by Leconte

MONTE CARLO, April 23. (Reuters) Yannick Noah plucked a spectacular victory from virtual certain defeat by Henri Leconte yesterday to earn a semifinal place with world number one Ivan Lendl in the Monte Carlo Open tennis tournament.

Leconte, who felt he had been denied victory by the umpire on the first of three match points, could not withstand Noah's resurgence as his French Davis Cup colleague swept to a 2-6 7-6 6-3 quarterfinal win.

Top seed Lendl, returning after two months out with a foot injury, had earlier taken a laborious 7-6 6-2 victory over Swedish 10th seed Joakim Nystrom, the Czechoslovak's successor as Monte Carlo champion in 1986.

Emphatic

Unseeded Thierry Tulasne got France a second semifinal spot with a 7-5 6-1 upset of fifth seed Andres Gomez of Ecuador.

Tulasne next faces seventh seed Martin Jaito of Argentina, who scored an emphatic 6-2 6-0 win over Italian qualifier Claudio Pistolesi to bring the surprise third round conqueror of defending champion Mats Wilander firmly back to the earth.

But the clash between the mercurial French pair held the limelight with Leconte, seeded 11th, controlling the show before the fatal tie-break in the second set.



Leconte: nearly eliminated Noah

Leconte, who had won 13 straight matches on clay including the Nice Open final last Sunday, served sharply and hit backhands which had Noah in disarray in the first set.

There were no service breaks in the second set but in the tie-break Leconte looked certain to win when he led 4-0 and 6-3 with

three match-points to follow.

Noah's next service looked long but after Leconte hit it back in court, the line judge couldn't rule and the umpire decided it was out and ordered the second service.

Noah then saved that match point and two more, the third with a brilliant backhand

volleyed drive, and the match changed course irreversibly as he swept through the tie-break 8-6.

Noah led 3-1 in the deciding set and clinched his semifinal place when Leconte hit a forehand volley into the net.

"The first serve I thought was out and I turned away. Henri returned it but I didn't play the point. I guess if Henri says the ball was good, I guess it was good," Noah said.

"Psychologically that was the turn of the match. He started to lose a lot of points. I concede I've been very lucky. For two sets he was much better. He was the only player on the court."

"But after that serve it was still 6-3 and I still had three match-points to go," said Noah, specialist in great escapes in Monte Carlo after he had been two points from defeat against doubles partner Guy Forget in the second round and three against Spanish qualifier Jordi Arrese in the third.

"The ball was on the line," Leconte said of the disputed point. "The linesman confirmed the ball was on the line. The match was over (but) the chairman changed the decision."

"I won one match and then played another. On paper I lost but in my mind I won."

Noah said: "I think I'm very lucky to survive this one. It's been a hell of a match, not just a one-point match. It was very close. Too bad it was match-point."

Lendl, who learned yesterday he may soon be granted US citizenship, toiled for eight minutes short of two hours before subduing Nystrom.

Lendl squandered a set-point on his service at 5-4 as three games in a row went against service, furiously suffering a second break as two spectators wandered along the side of the court searching for their places.

Lendl, however, controlled the tie-break from the start, seizing a 4-0 lead and clinching it on his third set-point at 7-2.

He finally took charge with a break for 4-2 in the second set but needed four match-points before he nailed Nystrom.

Pistolesi, after leading 2-1 in the first set, failed to win another game.

"I felt very tired when I went on court. I was very determined, but my legs said 'bye bye.' With the qualifiers, it was my seventh match in six days," Pistolesi said.

"He played very well, but in the second set my game lost about 20 per cent and at this level that's bad."

"I can't be happy to leave this tournament like this, but nobody can touch my victory over Wilander. It was a great victory for me."

Jaito thought Pistolesi had suffered the reaction. "When you beat a guy like Wilander you're very happy and excited. After that you're the opposite the next day," he said.

Hendry rallies to take lead against White

SHEFFIELD, England, April 23. (Reuters) Teenaged Scot, Stephen Hendry, hit world number two Jimmy White with a potent brew of champagne snooker to race to a 9-7 lead in their World Snooker Championship second round match yesterday.

Hendry dropped the first frame of the day to fall behind 6-3 in their best-of-25 frames contest, then won six successive frames before losing the last of the session to leave himself needing just four frames in the final session this evening.

Earlier, defending champion Steve Davis dished out the heaviest defeat in the history of 25-frame matches at the Crucible theatre here when he trounced Mike Hallett 13-1.

The Hendry-White contest, with the winner widely expected to reach the final, has been the most anticipated of the tournament and for the second successive day no-one was disappointed.

Both players were dazzling at times. White to win the opening frame after falling behind 39-0 Hendry drawing level as White made just 17 points over three frames.

White did little wrong, though Hendry punished a couple of errors — once when the Englishman fouled off the break and then when White missed a game ball pink which he should have made.

Hendry's best break of the session was a 125 in the 12th frame and he made 101 in just six minutes three frames later before White cut the deficit to just two frames with breaks of 47 and 31.

Hendry, 18, is ranked 23rd in the world, but could move up as high as number two next season.

McEnroe may quit tennis in 1990

INGLEWOOD, California, April 23. (AP) John McEnroe said yesterday there's a good chance he'll be retired from professional tennis by the end of 1990.

"I don't see myself playing more than two-and-a-half more years," McEnroe said during a news conference at the Forum promoting his match against Sweden's Stefan Edberg Monday night.

The winner of the match, billed as the superfinals of the Michelin Challenge Series, will earn \$100,000 with the loser receiving \$40,000.

McEnroe, 29, won his first tournament in 18 months last Sunday, defeating Edberg 6-2, 6-2, in the finals of the \$752,000 Suntory Japan Open.

The Tokyo tournament was McEnroe's first Grand Prix appearance since he reached the quarterfinals of the last year's US Open. Since that time, he was kept off the tour due to a 60-day suspension for bad behavior during the Open and a subsequent back injury which forced his withdrawal from the Australian Open.

"(When I started this



McEnroe: moved up to 14th place

comeback) I was going to give myself at least a good 18 months, but there's no reasons to put extra pressure on myself to say I'm going to quit in two years," McEnroe said. "My theory now

is that I want to take as much pressure off myself as possible, whereas before I'd like to heap it on mound after mound and it just got to be too much to take," McEnroe hopes to stay in

sports following the conclusion of his playing career, and already has discussed one venture.

"I'd like to start a tennis academy in Los Angeles," said McEnroe, who lives in nearby Malibu with his wife, actress Tatum O'Neal, and their two sons. "I've already talked with (Los Angeles Lakers and Forum owner) Jerry Buss about it. He's interested in it, and maybe he can fork over a little money."

McEnroe believes such a programme would help Americans regain their tennis dominance.

Claiming that his tournament-winning drought was caused by injuries and marriage and fatherhood which put his mind on family matters rather than tennis, the world's No. 1 player from 1981 to 1984 believes he is in good position to regain the top ranking.

"I've turned the corner on both things," said McEnroe, whose 71st career singles title enabled him to jump from 25th to 14th on the men's computer rankings. "I think you'll even see more improvement, although it was a great lift off my shoulders to win the tournament. It's one less thing I have to deal with."

Italian manager opts for youth

ROME, April 23. (Reuters) World Cup veterans Alessandro Altobelli and Salvatore Bagni were omitted from the Italian national squad for the third successive game yesterday as manager Azeglio Vicini again opted for youth.

The 18-man squad named for Wednesday's friendly away to Luxembourg showed only one change from the young team that drew 1-1 in a friendly against Yugoslavia last month.

Napoli's Ciro Ferrara, who missed the Yugoslav match through injury, replaces young Torino midfielder Massimo Crippa.

Bagni and Altobelli are expected to play in the European championship finals in West Germany in June but Vicini intends to experiment with young players as much as possible ahead of the 1990 World Cup in Italy.

Squad: Goalkeepers — Walter Zenga (Internazionale), Marco Landucci (Fiorentina); Defenders — Giuseppe Bergomi (Internazionale), Giovanni Francini (Napoli), Luigi de Agostini (Juventus), Franco Baresi (AC Milan), Riccardo Ferri (Internazionale), Paolo Maldini (AC Milan); Midfield — Ciro Ferrara (Napoli), Luca Fusi (Sampdoria), Fernando De Napoli (Napoli), Giuseppe Giannini (Roma), Francesco Romano (Napoli), Nicola Bert (Fiorentina); Forwards — Roberto Donadoni (AC Milan), Gianluca Vialli (Sampdoria), Roberto Mancini (Sampdoria), Ruggiero Rizzitelli (Cesena).

Greece to spend \$2.5b on 1996 Games bid

ATHENS, April 23. (Reuters) Greece will spend \$2.5 billion to support its bid to host the 1996 Olympic Games, one hundred years after the modern games were launched in Athens, the president of the Greek Olympic Committee said yesterday.

Lambis Nikolau said as much as 70 per cent of the cost of projects including building a new airport and improving roads and other facilities would be financed by the European Community (EC).

Athens mayor Miliades Evert said the athletic facilities needed for the Games would be completed by 1990.

Athens has an 80,000-seat Olympic Stadium where the World Youth Athletics Championships were held in 1986.



Evert: overcame Magers

Navratilova and Evert struggle into semifinals

HOUSTON, April 23. (UPI) Martina Navratilova, Chris Evert and Zina Garrison recovered from weak first sets yesterday to advance to the semifinals of the \$250,000 Virginia Slims of Houston.

Also advancing was Elly Hakami, who defeated injured Patricia Tarabini by default.

Navratilova, the top seed, defeated No. 5 Arantxa Sanchez of Spain 7-6 (7-3), 6-2 in one quarterfinal. Evert, the No. 2 seed, registered a 2-6 6-3 6-0 victory over Gretchen Magers, Garrison, the No. 4 seed from Houston, downed No. 6 Isabel Cueto of West Germany 7-6 (7-3), 6-1.

No. 7 Tarabini defaulted because of an injured ankle in the semifinals. Hakami will face Navratilova while Garrison meets Evert.

Tarabini injured her right ankle during Thursday's match against Carrie Cunningham. X-rays showed no break but she determined yesterday morning she was unable to play.

Navratilova and Sanchez combined for five service breaks to produce the first-set tie-breaker. Navratilova won six of the first seven points in the tie-breaker and then took only 34 minutes to polish off her 16-year-old opponent in the second set.

"I don't want to play here anymore unless they do some-

thing about the lights," Navratilova said. "Many times I had to pull off the shot I wanted to hit because I couldn't see the ball well enough. I'm glad I don't have to play tomorrow."

Evert said she was fully confident despite dropping the first set.

"I think Gretchen played great in the first set, but I knew I could still win the match," Evert said. "In the third set I outlasted her. She got tired and I was still fresh. I had more in reserve."

After losing the first set, Evert won 12 of the next 15 games.

"I did OK for a little while," Magers said. "After the first set, I was really excited. Then I realized that I was playing against Chris Evert. To compete at that level, I have to be tougher mentally and physically."

Garrison also was behind in the first set, trailing Cueto 3-1 after a break in the third game. But Garrison broke back in the eighth game to tie it 4-4 and each player held serve to force the tie-breaker won by Garrison. The second set lasted only 28 minutes.

"I've always been a player who works hard and gets better after I've been beaten a couple of times," Garrison said. "I never felt comfortable because of the previous matches this week. I didn't take anything for granted."

Connors outlasts Seguso

TULSA, Oklahoma, April 23. (AP) Jimmy Connors and Amos Mansdorf, the top two seeds, each won their second singles match yesterday of the 11th Bank of Oklahoma Tennis Classic, while Christo van Rensburg and Scott Davis scored their first victories in the \$80,000 event.

Connors, ranked fifth in the world, beat Robert Seguso, 6-4, 7-5. Earlier, Mansdorf defeated Ramesh Krishnan of India 6-4, 6-3.

Van Rensburg, seeded third in the round-robin event, beat Richey Reneberg 4-6, 6-4, 6-4. Davis beat Mel Purcell 5-7, 6-4, 6-3.

First Mansdorf and Van Rensburg teamed up yesterday to defeat Krishnan and Reneberg in the first round of the doubles competition, 7-6 (7-4), 6-4, at the Shadow Mountain Racquet Club.

After losing the first set, Seguso was up 5-4 in the second set when Connors won four consecutive points to take the 10th game, then swept the next two. Connors, 35, has won this tour-

Connors: triumphs

namant four times.

Mansdorf easily defeated Krishnan, sweeping the final four games.

Van Rensburg had more difficulty with Reneberg, ranked 71st in the world, rallying after losing the first set.

Purcell, seeded last in the tournament and ranked 171st in the world, won the first set against Davis by holding serve in the 11th game and breaking service in the final game.

But Davis' strong groundstrokes overcame his six double-faults and seven aces by Purcell to come from behind in the second set when down 4-1 to win the final five games. Davis, ranked 65th and seeded fifth, won the first three games and the final three to take the third set.

Damiani retains European title

MILAN, April 23. (Reuters) Italy's Francesco Damiani retained his European heavyweight boxing title in a devastating style yesterday when he stopped John Emmen of the Netherlands early in the third round of a scheduled 12-round bout.

Damiani, who weighed in for the fight more than 10 kilos heavier than his opponent, won the first round calmly before moving in for the kill at the start of the third.

From the bell he abandoned his earlier caution, honing in relentlessly on his opponent with a series of harsh body punches that the surprised Dutchman was unable to stave off.

Stopped

Damiani unleashed seven unanswered blows to Emmen's head, sending him reeling onto the ropes where British referee Bill Coyle stopped the fight.

The victory, Damiani's first title defence since winning the crown from Sweden's Anders Eklund in Aosta last October, maintains the Italian's unbeaten 21-fight record. It was Emmen's first defeat in 12 professional bouts.



Damiani raises his arms in jubilation after defeating Emmen. (Reuters wirephoto)

Pirates fight back for win over Cubs

PITTSBURGH, April 23. (AP) J. Reynolds hit a tie-breaking single in the seventh inning and Mike Lavalliere went 4-for-4 with a two-run double, leading the streaking Pittsburgh Pirates to a come-from-behind 8-4 victory over the Chicago Cubs last night.

Pittsburgh, which trailed 3-0 after 11 innings, won for the ninth time in the last 11 games with a two-out uprising against reliever Les Lancaster.

Lancaster walked Bobby Bonilla and Sid Bream before Reynolds' single put the Pirates ahead 4-3. Lavalliere, who tied his career high for hits in a game, followed with his second double to score two more runs. Lavalliere scored on a triple by Rafael Belliard.

Doug Drabek, 3-0, scattered eight hits — including home runs by Shawon Dunston and Jody Davis — with a career-high 11 strikeouts for the 11-4 Pirates, off to their best start since 1962. Bobby Bonilla homered for Pittsburgh of Chicago started Calvin Schiraldi.

Phillies 2, Expos 0

Kevin Gross pitched a six-hitter and struck out a career-high 12 batters.

The Phillies scored in the second inning off Pascual Perez on a leadoff double by Von Hayes. Lance Parrish's grounder that sent Hayes to third and a passed ball by Jeff Reed. Parrish hit his fourth home run in the eighth inning on the first pitch from Jeff Parrett.

Gross, 1-1, who issued only one walk, lowered his era over 31 innings to 0.86. Perez allowed six hits in seven innings.

Reds 4, Braves 0

Danny Kassner pitched a six-hitter, the third shutout in a row against Atlanta, and red-hot rookie Chris Sabo hit a three-run homer. The Braves had their string of scoreless innings extended to 28 following consecutive shutouts at Houston on Wednesday and Thursday nights.

Jackson struck out nine and walked two in his first national league shutout. He had six during his five seasons with the Kansas City in the American League. It was the 10th consecutive home loss for the Braves, who are winless in nine home games this year and 2-13 overall.

Jackson started the Reds' three-run third inning with a single inside first base off Zane Smith. Barry Larkin followed with a single and Sabo, who started the game hitting .231, hit his fourth homer over the left-field fence.

Mets 4, Cardinals 0

Ron Darling scattered eight hits for his second shutout in four starts and Howard Johnson hit a three-run homer as New York defeated St. Louis for the fourth triumph in four meetings with the defending National League champs.

Darling's Strawberry, who started the night at the NL's top batter doubled off Jose DeLeon to start the Mets' second and scored on Kevin McReynolds' single.

Darling, who walked two and struck out five, projected the 1-0 lead until the Mets broke it open in the ninth. Strawberry again doubled. Gray Carter was intentionally walked by DeLeon and Johnson greeted Todd Worrell with his second home run of the season.

The setback dropped the defending NL champions' record to 4-11 and was the Cardinals' third shutout of the year compared to four all of 1987.

Padres 3, Astros 1

Marvel Wynne and Benito Santiago homered to back the eight-hit pitching of Jimmy Jones and Mark Davis as San Diego defeated Houston for the eighth straight time at Jack Murphy stadium.

Santiago's second home run of the season, a two-run shot in the sixth inning, broke a 1-1 tie against Nolan Ryan, who hasn't beaten the Padres since Oct. 5, 1985. The Padres had tied the game on Wynne's second homer in the fourth, ending a string of 22 1-3 scoreless innings by Houston pitchers.

Jones, 2-1, went 6 2-3 innings, allowing six hits. Davis earned his second save with 2 1-3 innings of two-hit relief. Billy Hatcher singled home Houston's run in the third inning.

Indians 11, Twins 6

Cory Snyder and Joe Carter hit Grand Slams and Greg Swindell won his fourth game as Cleveland beat Minnesota Twins 11-6.

Results

National League			
Pittsburgh	8	Chicago	4
Philadelphia	2	Montreal	0
Cincinnati	4	Atlanta	0
New York	3	St. Louis	0
San Diego	3	Houston	1
Los Angeles AT San Francisco ppd.			
American League			
Toronto	6	New York	4
Cleveland	11	Minnesota	6
Chicago	7	Oakland	5
Kansas City	13	Baltimore	1
Detroit	3	Texas	3
Seattle	7	California	4
Boston AT Milwaukee ppd.			

Pele joins fight against AIDS

TOKYO, April 23. (AP) "The Pele All Stars" soccer team yesterday kicked off a four-game series to raise funds to fight AIDS, defeating a Japanese team 2-0 and raising 8 million yen (\$64,000).

But Pele, the Brazilian soccer legend, did not play yesterday. Officials had no comment, but sources said he apparently was suffering from a minor leg injury.

The visitors, playing before 48,000 spectators at the Tokyo dome, scored both goals in the second half to beat the Japan Senior All Stars.

Speedy

Bruce Wilson of Canada scored the first goal at 10:00 with a free kick after both teams became more active and speedy in the second half. Johnny Rep of the Netherlands added the other goal at the 30:50 mark.

In the first half, Pele's team controlled the ball most of the time, attacking the Japanese goal 13 times. But the shots were either missed or caught.

"It was a beautiful and fantastic game," Pele said afterwards. "It was important for us as the Japanese spectators reacted to the good play. Thank you very much for Japanese people's cooperation for this campaign."

Rep also said: "It was a wonderful game. I got excited as spectators reacted actively."

Added Wilson: "I enjoyed the game with the great players."

The Japanese team was led by Kunishige Kamamoto.

Japanese coach Kenzo Yok-



Pele (centre) with Carlos Bilardo (left), manager of Pele All Stars, and Ruud Krol of the Netherlands before the match (Reuters wirephoto)

oyama hailed the visitors, saying: "They played much better than us, just like active players. We could not get our rhythm..."

Other star players on Pele's team were Pat Jennings of Northern Ireland, Johan Neeskens of the Netherlands, Paolo Rossi of Italy, Eusebio of Portugal and George Best of Northern Ireland.

Spectators paid from 2,500

yen (\$20) to 4,000 yen (\$32) to watch the match.

The money went to the Japan AIDS Foundation to educate Japanese about the deadly disease, officials said. AIDS, or Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, strips the body of its natural immunity. It is most common among homosexuals and intravenous drug users.

The team of stars from years past will play in Zimbabwe on May 29, in Paris on Sept. 10 and in Los Angeles on Oct. 10 to raise funds for AIDS foundations in those countries, they said.

The "Kick Aids '88" was sponsored by the Sharp Corp., a leading maker of consumer electronics and office automation equipment, with the Fuji Television Network and the newspaper Sankai Sports.

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Karpov wins

BRUSSELS, April 23, (Xinhua): Former world champion Anatoly Karpov of the Soviet Union won the Swift international chess tournament counting for the Chess World Cup here yesterday.

Asian karate

NEW DELHI, April 23, (Xinhua): Nepal won the inaugural south Asian Karate Championships which concluded here yesterday. Nepal, who clinched both team and individual honours, claimed eight gold, seven silver and two bronze medals to top the medal standings.

World record

BEIJING, April 23, (Xinhua): Jin Shaofang of southeast China's Anhui province surpassed the world jerk record for the women's 56-kg category at a provincial weightlifting tournament yesterday in Hefei, her home province. Chinese sports newspaper 'Tiyubao' (sports news) reported today.

Spanish squad

MADRID, April 23, (Reuters): Spanish coach Miguel Munoz yesterday named nine Real Madrid players in his 16-man squad for the soccer friendly against Scotland in Madrid next Wednesday.

Africa soccer

CAIRO, April 23, (Reuters): National of Egypt beat Tanzania's Young Africans 4-0 (half-time 2-0) in the second leg, first round match of Africa's Champions' Cup to win the tie and qualify for the second round.

S. Korean Open

SEOUL, April 23, (Reuters): Unseeded Andrew Castle became the first Briton to reach a Grand Prix tennis final for six years with a hard-fought 6-4 7-6 victory over American Greg Holmes in the South Korean Open today.

Champions tourney

NEW YORK, April 23, (AP): John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors will play in the Tournament of Champions at the Forest Hills Tennis Club, organisers of the event said yesterday.

Liverpool win

LONDON, April 23, (UPI): Liverpool clinched a record 17th English soccer league championship today when it won 1-0 against Tottenham at Anfield. The former European champion now has won eight more titles than the next most successful club, Everton.

Alden wins

PORTO CERVO, Italy, April 23, (AP): Finnish driver Markku Alen, driving a Lancia Delta car, yesterday won the Costa Smeralda Rally for the second consecutive year.

American jockey

SANDOWN, England, April 23, (AP): American jockey Cash Asmussen guided French trained Soviet Star to a 2-1/2 length victory in the £40,000 (\$72,000) Trusthouse Forte Mile at Sandown yesterday.

Lakers player

PHOENIX, Arizona, April 23, (AP): Police are investigating a scuffle between Kareem Abdul-Jabbar of the Los Angeles Lakers and an Italian tourist at a shopping mall, officials said yesterday.

RAMEEZ AND SHOAIB SLAM HALF CENTURIES

Pakistanis hit West Indies for 309

BRIDGETOWN, April 23, (Reuters): Malcolm Marshall, with 4-79, and Winston Benjamin, with 3-52, were primarily responsible for the dismissal of Pakistan in their first innings for 309 on the opening day of the third and final Test.

Pakistan, having been 218-7 not long after tea, passed the 300 mark thanks to an 8th wicket stand of 67 between Saleem Yousuf and Wasim Akram that was ended when Yousuf was forced to retire hurt for 32, in trying to hook a Marshall bouncer, the Pakistani keeper, was struck in the face and later taken to hospital.

Succession

After Yousuf's sad departure for 32, which included two hooked sixes in succession off Benjamin, Marshall dismissed Wasim for 38 and Abdul Qadir for 18, both caught hooking by long leg. Wasim had batted with his customary aggression hitting Courtney Walsh for 18 in one over.

After being 99-1 shortly before lunch, Pakistan, who had been put in, relaxed to 218-7 soon after tea largely as a result of some careless shots.

In the last over before lunch Rameez Raja, having played handsomely for 54, drove loosely at Winston Benjamin and was caught at cover point. This was a



Yousuf (left) and Wasim: put on 67 runs for the 8th wicket

wicket needlessly given away; as was that of Shoaib Mohammad in the last over before tea. Shoaib, who had batted for 165 minutes in compiling an attractive 54, rather half-heartedly cut a harmless short ball

from Curtley Ambrose straight to gully.

Mid-way through the afternoon session, Marshall had struck two vital blows for West Indies by blasting out both Javed Miandad and Salim Malik in the



space of four overs. Javed was comfortably taken at second slip for 14 by Richie Richardson after Marshall had moved one away off the seam.

Salim Malik having hit his first two balls, short ones from Mar-

shall, for four and six, offered no stroke and was bowled off-stump.

Aamer Malik and Imran Khan were both out to Benjamin in quick succession after tea. Having played very competently for 32, Aamer carelessly drove a half-volley to cover where Carl Hooper took a good catch. Imran tried to pull a ball that was not particularly short and got an under-edge to keeper Dujon.

Earlier in the morning, Ambrose had taken the first Pakistani wicket to fall when he yorked the out-of-form Mudasar for 18 with the score at 46.

Scoreboard

PAKISTAN first innings:	
Mudasar Nazar b Ambrose	18
Rameez Raja c Greenidge b Benjamin	54
Shoaib Mohammad c Greenidge b Ambrose	54
Javed Miandad c Richardson b Marshall	14
Salim Malik b Marshall	15
Aamer Malik c Hooper b Benjamin	32
Imran Khan c Dujon b Benjamin	18
Saleem Yousuf retired hurt	32
Wasim Akram c Benjamin b Marshall	38
Abdul Qadir c Walsh b Marshall	17
Extras (b7 nb9)	16
Total	309
Fall of wickets: 1-46 2-99 3-128 4-155 5-217 6-218 7-297 8-309	
Bowling: Marshall 18.4-3-79-4, Ambrose 14-2-64-2, Benjamin 14-3-52-3, Walsh 10-1-53-0, Hooper 12-3-35-0, Richards 6-0-19-0	

Kuwait local rally results revised

By Gail Seery

THE KTMSD have now altered the results of last Friday's Kuwait local rally, following a week when the entire organising committee resigned, and a good deal of resentment and bad feeling bubbled to the surface. Both Faez Chihab and Ahmed Al Zafri had their results cancelled, a decision which is both unusual and potentially controversial.

At the start of this season everyone had great hopes that the mismanagement and bad feeling within the sports division of the KT Club were over. A new committee had been elected, and a horde of exciting plans were being talked about, including a rally school, a newsletter and club evenings. It certainly looked as if the members would have greater say in the success or failure of the club. KTMSD went ahead and changed their own name, and the duration of the rally season, but there the initiative seemed to stop.

Things carried on looking great during the first rally of the season. A record number of drivers turned out, and enough helpers were found to ensure that any short-cutting — a common

problem in most Middle East rallies — was kept to the absolute minimum.

The International rally last month was, sadly, another story. Some members of the organising committee worked very hard indeed, but there was almost no back-up from the main committee when it came to the tough decisions about Fisa's telex and Sulayem's protest. At the catastrophe prize giving ceremony, there was no-one to take the pressure off the organisers. Otmar Lange, seen by many as a positive force for change within the club, resigned shortly after the rally, and the club again found itself indulging in vituperative exchanges instead of looking to the future.

During last Friday's rally, Faez Chihab rolled and broke his windscreen, and according to safety regulations, should not have been allowed to continue. When Jack Lubbat posted the results at the SAS hotel, he was beaten up by two members, one of whom had driven in the event, and whose result was directly affected. It is clear that a mistake was made in allowing Chihab's result to stand at this point, but the assault on Lubbat made the problem worse.

Finally after one week of arguments, Chihab's result has been squashed, along with Ahmed Zafri's result. Here the KTMSD seems to be making another mistake. According to the regulations the posted results remain provisional for one hour. After that time, if no-one has brought a protest, the results stand. Again, the penalty should not have been identical for someone who was, according to regulations, not eligible to finish the rally, and someone who lost his temper, but competed fairly in the rally. Perhaps it should have been just to ban the second from competing in a future rally, but it is not fair to squash his result unless he too has been driving outside the rules.

This decision was not taken by the organising committee, which resigned immediately after the rally, but by a meeting of the main committee. With the former Clerk of the Course Faez Chihab at the centre of the controversy, and in any case being in the process of moving to Dubai, he is unlikely to even contemplate a return to organising Kuwait events. Without Wael Khouri and Jack Lubbat, it is hard to see how any more rallies can be organised, though

naturally, if there is someone who has the necessary skills and time we will be pleasantly surprised. Again both young and established drivers are saying that if this is the way the sport is to continue, with fist fights and squabbling, they want no part in it.

Clearly the future is looking bleak for the club, though with a break of nearly five months before the next round it is possible that committee members and drivers alike will see sense and decide that it is better to work together to make certain that rallies continue in Kuwait. There are a lot of problems within the KTMSD itself, and it is to be hoped that members will have a good long look at their actions and their motives and put the good of the club first.

Final results: 1. Eid Falaah/Sadeq Ashkanani, Range Rover, 01:42:36; 2. Mohammad Alhusaini/Tharhan Almoosa, Toyota Celica, 01:43:12; 3. Ali Alharumi/Mohammad Alzaid, Mitsubishi Lancer, 01:54:25; 4. Tareq Alalyan/Kholoud Alalyan, Daihatsu Rocky, 02:03:54; 5. Noori Alhasawi/Ahmad Alshabini, Nissan Silvia, 02:06:33; 6. Saad Alhimmiri/Ahmad Aladrisi, Datsun 160J, 02:08:17; 7. Abdullah Alharwaie/Anwar Abu Jarwa, Mitsubishi Starion, 02:11:13; 8. Saad Ali/Othman Hamdar, Lada, 02:16:39; 9. Younis Ali/Walid Alzafri, Lada, 02:19:02; 10. Khamis Alkhamis/Abdulatif Alrashid, Datsun 180, 02:27:38; 11. Hassan Alshamir/Ahmad Alshamir, Mitsubishi Galant, 02:37:15; 12. Khalid Alshomari/Prince Valsen, Suzuki Jeep, 02:59:45.

Revised championship standings: 1. Josef Miskulig, 55 points; 2. Faez Chihab, Tareq Alalyan, 54 points; 4. Ahmed Al Nasser, 48 points; 5. Noori Alhasawi, 40 points; 6. Ahmed Al Hilal, 30 points; 7. Mohammad Alhusaini, Tareq Al Wazzan 25 points; 9. Jamal Marafi, 24 points; 10. Ali Al Birami, 22 points.

Wadkins fires 65 for Open top place

NEW ORLEANS, April 23, (Reuters): Lanny Wadkins fired a seven-under-par 65 to take the lead at the halfway point to the \$750,000 New Orleans Open with a two-day total of 132.

Wadkins, who won the Southern Amateur on this Lakewood Country Club course in 1970, had a bogeyless seven birdie round to take a one-stroke lead over Chip Beck, who turned in a brilliant eight-under-par round of 64.

Wadkins, who won earlier this year at the Hawaiian Open, opened quickly with four birdies in his first seven holes.

"When I get it going good I want to make as many birdies as I can," said Wadkins. "I've always believed that no lead is big enough."

Birdies

Beck, who won earlier this year at Los Angeles, found himself in the competition after a four-hole birdie barrage on holes six through nine. Back-to-back birdies on 15 and 16 drew him within one stroke of Wadkins.

Tom Byrum, a non-winner in three years on the US PGA Tour, is two shots back at 134. Scott Verplank, who followed a disappointing 71 with a 64 of his own, was another stroke behind the leader.

First round leader Hal Sutton, who opened with a 65, could manage no better than a one-over-par 73 and was within a group of nine including Australians Steve Elkington and David Graham on six-under-par 138.

Swiss to bid for 1998 World Cup

BERN, Switzerland, April 23, (AP): Switzerland's soccer officials decided yesterday to start preparing a bid to host the 1998 soccer World Cup finals, joining France as preliminary candidate.

The Swiss Soccer Federation's nine-member board unanimously backed the step after 10 stadium owners indicated willingness to consider major overhauls and commercial sponsors were found to help launch the effort.

Switzerland hosted the 1954 World Cup.

Joao Havelange, president of the Zurich-based International Soccer Federation (Fifa), has encouraged a new Swiss candidacy and said it would have good chances. Fifa general secretary Joseph Blatter, a Swiss, echoed those statements.

Fifa will decide the 1998 site in 1992. Under a traditional rotation by continent, only European countries are to be considered. The 1994 World Cup will be awarded in July to either Brazil, Morocco or the United States.

Hick slams first double century of season

LONDON, April 23, (Reuters): Surrey became the first county to win a four-day championship match with victory inside two days against Hampshire yesterday, but it was Graeme Hick who stole the limelight.

The 21-year-old Zimbabwe-born player, who will be eligible to play for England in 1991, made an explosive start to the season by hammering 212 as Worcestershire piled up 409 for seven before declaring against Lancashire.

On a tricky Old Trafford pitch which made strokeplay difficult, Hick lashed four sixes and 25 fours in his 345 minutes at the wicket.

Ian Botham had a far less auspicious start to the season, being out for three and facing only 13 balls.

Pace bowler Graham Dilley then plunged Lancashire deeper in trouble by grabbing two wickets in his second over and they ended the second day's play on 11 for two in their first innings.

Dismissal

Surrey set the stage for their nine-wicket win by asking Hampshire to follow on after dismissing them for 91 in their first innings and then reducing them to 77 for six in their second.

However a fighting 49 from Paul Terry and a spirited eight-wicket stand of 92 between Stephen Jefferies, who top-scored with 60, and Tim Tremlett ensured that Surrey had to bat again.

Scores

Four-day matches: At Southampton: result — Surrey beat Hampshire by nine wickets. Surrey 246 in 90.1 overs and 47 for one, Hampshire 91 (N. Peters four for 47, M. Feltham three for six, S. Clarke three for 27) and 198 (S. Jefferies 60, P. Terry 49, I. Greig six for 56). Surrey 22 points, Hampshire four.

Turkey to play Greece

ISTANBUL, April 23, (Reuters): Turkey and Greece have fixed September 21 for their first national soccer match in 36 years, the semi-official Anatolian news agency said today.

The match will be held in Istanbul and a return match will be held in Athens on March 29, 1989. The two countries' B-teams will play on the day before both matches, the agency said.



Hick: hit 212

At Derby: Derbyshire 324 in 119.5 overs (B. Maher 121 not out, C. Lewis five for 73), Leicestershire 231 for four in 76 overs (N. Briers 90, J. Whittaker 52 not out).

At Chelmsford: Kent 400 for seven declared in 152 overs (C. Cowdrey 48), Essex 279 for three in 77 overs (G. Gooch 126 not out, D. Pringle 88 not out).

At Old Trafford: Worcestershire 409 for seven declared in 144 overs (G. Hick 212, P. Neale 40), Lancashire 11 for two in six overs.

At Lord's: Middlesex 199 in 67.5 overs and 50 for one, Nottinghamshire 308 in 129.2 overs (M. Newell 80, F. Stephenson 63, A. Fraser six for 75).

At Hove: Somerset 142 in 67.3 overs and 183 for six (N. Burns 54 not out, R. Harden 45), Sussex 266 in 81.2 overs (P. Parker 101 not out, D. Foster four for 67).

At Bristol: Glamorgan 372 for nine declared in 128 overs (G. Holmes 117, T. Alderman four for 70), Gloucestershire 265 for six in 89 overs (W. Athey 123, A. Stovold 52, P. Bainbridge 52).

Results on the final day of three-day cricket matches yesterday:

At Oxford: Northamptonshire beat Oxford University by an innings and 157 runs. Oxford University 137 and 95 (N. Cook four for 32, A. Walker three for 20, S. Brown three for 20), Northamptonshire 389 for five declared (S. Stanley 66, D. Ripley 41 not out).

At Cambridge: match abandoned — rain. Cambridge University 78, Warwickshire 405 for two.

Coach tells of Budd's near despair

LONDON, April 23, (Reuters): Zola Budd's coach spoke yesterday of the athlete's near despair. John Bryant said: "I hope this doesn't drag on — for Zola's sake and for the damage it might do to world sport."

The pressure on her has been awful and at times she has been just this side of despair. But she has been encouraged by many messages of support — from ordinary people and from some well-known personalities.

Budd faces a 12-month ban after the International Amateur Athletic Federation's (IAAF) decision over her involvement last year in a meeting in South Africa.

The British Amateur Athletic Board (BAAB) council meets tomorrow to decide her future, although a final verdict is likely to be delayed.

Bryant said: "Zola has no wish to tear the Olympics apart or for the British team to be denied the chance to compete. She is sorry it has reached this point."

"She just wants the truth to come out, to settle down in Britain and to be allowed to continue her athletics career."

Despite the pressure, Budd has kept up her training and Bryant added: "She had a good session in mid-week. Afterwards we all went to the pub and for a while everything seemed normal."

Gardner gets a push-off from mechanics during training on Friday. (Reuters wirephoto)



Gardner gets a push-off from mechanics during training on Friday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Gardner eighth fastest

JARAMA, Spain, April 23, (Reuters): World 500cc motorcycle champion Wayne Gardner of Australia could clock only the eighth fastest time in the first practice session yesterday for tomorrow's Spanish Grand Prix.

Australian Gardner, who is chasing his first win of the season after finishing second in Japan and the United States, took his Honda round in one minute 29.620 seconds. This was two seconds slower than leader Chris

istian Sarron of France, riding a Yamaha, who managed 1:27.629.

Yamaha also took second place with Australian Kevin Magee while their top rider, twice world champion Eddie Lawson of the United States, could only make fifth.

Britain's Niall MacKenzie, on a Honda, was third. Times were only available for the second of yesterday's two runs due to a stopwatch failure.

Golf classic

ST PETERSBURG, Fla., April 23, (Reuters): Rosie Jones got off to a bad start but settled down to a card a three-under-par 69 and capture a share of the lead with Donna White after two rounds of the \$225,000 St Petersburg Golf Classic.

Jones suffered three bogeys against two birdies on the front nine but had a bogeyless, three-birdie back nine of the 6,013-yard Pasadena Yacht and Country Club course for her 136.



Hyderabad skipper Ashfaq (left) receives the trophy from Ali Khudair.



The victorious Hyderabad squad pictured after winning the match against Capri.

Hyderabad clinch Winner's Cup

CAPRI'S Naseer failed to hit the six that his team needed on the last ball of their innings against Hyderabad Cricket Club, who held on to win the Winner's Cup at the Ahnadi Governorate ground earlier this week.

Capri, needed five runs for a win, saw Naseer take only two runs off Ronny's last ball as Hyderabad won the match by two runs.

Other

Earlier on Capri had done well to restrict Hyderabad to 177 for eight in their 35 allotted overs. Hyderabad had started its innings on a bad note, losing their top batsman in the second over of the innings without scor-

ing. Remy and Masood then put on 50 runs for the second wicket before the latter was out for 33.

Remy slammed 54 and kept the innings together. The other batsmen to reach the double figures were Ronnie with 19, Rodney 14 and James with an unbeaten 13.

Sarfraz was the pick of the Capri bowlers with three for 27. Sajid, Naresh and Zia got one wicket each.

Capri opened their innings through Adnan and Raju Patel, Saleem struck in the second over to get rid of Raju, caught by wicketkeeper Ashfaq Khan. Capri lost three more wickets and were soon tottering at 40 for

four. Sajid and Adnan then took the score to 79 before the former was caught by Ashfaq off James for 26.

Hyderabad seemed to be in sight of victory when Capri were 111 for seven, but Adnan and Sarfraz nearly turned the tables on them.

With four overs left, Capri needed only 16 runs to win the match but found the going tough against some very accurate Hyderabad bowling.

At the start of the last over Capri still needed 10 but could manage only seven. Adnan remained unbeaten on 70. Ashfaq put on a brilliant show

behind the wickets. He took five catches and stumped one to help his team restrict Capri. Ronny and Remy were the pick of the Hyderabad bowlers with two wickets each while James, Sethi and Ronnie took one each.

Brigadier Mohammed Sa'ad Al Khudair gave away the prizes at the end of the match. Ashfaq Khan was named batsman of the Tournament for his match-winning performances against Kokan and Bright Stars.

Mohammed Azam was named Bowler of the Tournament. After Ali Khudair gave away the trophy to the winners, the individual prizes were given away by Colonel Salem Al Muzairi.